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U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Burns District Office
HC 74-12533 Hwy 20 West
Hines, Oregon 97738

March 1994



Burns District Planning Update



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As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.

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Planning Update

Introduction

This is the fourth annual planning update published by the Burns District. We hope you will give us feedback on its content, layout, and usefulness to you.

Along with all other eastern Oregon Bureau of Land Management districts, it is our intent to keep you informed on issues, activities, and opportunities we think are important to our publics. More importantly, we are seeking feedback from those of you who may be affected by our multiple-use management programs. Accordingly, the key staff contacts for the various activities discussed in this annual publication have been identified. For general information or comments regarding the Update, please write to the address shown above.

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SPECIAL INTEREST TOPICS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FINDING COMMON GROUND

The backbone of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) policy and management is to develop common goals and strive for consensus among diverse public interests.

To accomplish this, the Burns District staff made extensive efforts to encourage public participation and to be available for public outreach. We responded to all requests for guest speaking appearances and we purposely spent extra time to coordinate with members of the local community, as well as concerned individuals and organizations, both state and nationwide.

Open Houses

In an effort to reach out to many varied interest groups and individuals, the Burns District held open houses in Bend, Burns, and Portland. Highlights included the Steens Mountain Video, displays and exhibits for the Donner und Blitzen National Wild and Scenic River, grazing issues, the Andrews Management Framework Plan Amendment, and the Oregon High Desert National Recreation Trail.

Organizations

The BLM staff was very active with local groups in fiscal year 1993, whether it was being a participating member or appearing as a guest speaker. The BLM and these organizations worked together to reach a better understanding of what were sometimes complex and emotional issues. Burns District personnel made presentations or were closely involved with the following groups:

Kiwanis	Cattlemen's Association
Sierra Club	Cattlemen's Association
PRIDE	Izaak Walton League
Lions Club	Harney County Chamber of Commerce
Community Response Team	State Rural Development

Working Groups

Another form of public participation falls within the Working Group category, where individuals with different views and different backgrounds (i.e., ranching, conservation, business, government, and other interested publics) come together to formulate a plan which will consider the economic, social and environmental impacts of each action for a specific area.



The following Working Groups have been organized:

South Steens Allotment

Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment

Malheur Lakes Basin

It has been our belief that communication must be ongoing. Although Burns District is remote from metropolitan areas, our studies have shown that up to 83 percent of recreation people using portions of the Burns District are from heavily populated areas in Oregon. Therefore, outreach efforts must and will continue, both locally and in other areas.

WORKING GROUPS A STRATEGY FOR ECOSYSTEM BASED MANAGEMENT

The concept of using Working Groups has been around a long time in BLM, going back to the earliest days of the Grazing Service. The Burns District is bringing this tool to the forefront as a methodology to forge resource decisions and obtain ideas and concerns from the public. The South Steens Allotment and Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment Working Groups are examples of people putting their heads together to develop ecosystem management strategies. In both cases, the BLM sought knowledgeable people of diverse interests to form a team to develop Allotment Management Plans (AMPs).

Rangeland Management Specialists Jim Buchanan and Willie Street have established Working Groups to assist in developing AMPs on two large areas in the south end of Harney County. Combined, the areas include nearly 603,000 acres of public and private lands. The South Steens and Pueblo-Lone Mountain grazing allotments represent typical landscapes, resources, and land use issues BLM managers are asked to deal with in an ecosystem based management approach. The following overviews detail the application of the Working Group concept on the two areas:

South Steens Allotment Working Group

The South Steens Allotment contains unique landscapes and resources. Within this allotment are all or portions of eight Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs), the Donner und Blitzen National Wild and Scenic River, a wild horse Herd Management Area (HMA), redband trout, a bighorn sheep Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), sage grouse strutting grounds, and critical winter range for elk, deer, and many other species of wildlife. There are 21.8 miles of riparian habitat in unsatisfactory condition within the allotment.

Because of the complexity of issues and the high public interest, the BLM solicited assistance for the development of an AMP for the allotment during the winter of 1991 and the spring of 1992. The BLM was interested in finding individuals who would represent the varied public interests and be committed to working to improve the ecosystem. The South Steens Allotment Working Group has representatives from The Nature Conservancy, Harney County Court, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), Oregon State University, Oregon Trout, Oregon Environmental Council, Roaring Springs Ranch, the Pacific Rivers Council, the local ranching community and the BLM.

The South Steens Allotment Working Group first met in May 1992. In August 1992, the Roaring Springs Ranch was sold and the new owner became a member of the Working Group. This was critical, because of the 325,000 acres in the allotment, the 75,000 acres owned by the ranch encompass a large portion of all the major tributaries of the South Fork of the Donner und Blitzen River. Since that time the group has had several office working sessions and field trips. The Working Group has taken an ecosystem approach in developing management objectives and a monitoring plan for the allotment. This dedicated group has worked many hours to reach a consensus on the management of the South Steens. The BLM interdisciplinary team for South Steens, in

conjunction with the South Steens Allotment Working Group, anticipates completing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the management of South Steens during this winter and having it available for public review before the end of March 1994.

Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment Working Group

The Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment, bordering Nevada in south-central Oregon, consists of 265,672 acres of public land and 12,300 acres of private inholdings. It is typical of land found in the Northern Great Basin which is high desert characterized by ridges and valleys oriented in a north to south direction. Within this allotment are all or portions of four WSAs encompassing 191,284 acres, along with habitat for Lahontan cutthroat trout, bighorn sheep, antelope, sage grouse, and many other species of wildlife.

This vast sagebrush and bunchgrass dominated land has been grazed by domestic livestock since the late 1870's. Typically, livestock were wintered on the valley floor and moved to higher elevations when lower elevation forage was consumed or weather conditions warranted the move, usually in the early spring. Livestock, both cattle and sheep, continually grazed the allotment until they were gathered or herded to the valley floor in late fall. Throughout the year, ranchers often competed for what green forage was available, resulting in the forage being totally consumed.

A formal evaluation was conducted for this allotment in 1989 to determine if the stocking rate matched the carrying capacity and to see if allotment-specific objectives were being met. Through the evaluation, it was determined that use was too heavy, especially on the riparian vegetation associated with the many streams and wet and dry meadows. A voluntary nonuse agreement was initiated between the permittees and the BLM as a result of the evaluation, and pending collection of further monitoring data and the development of a management plan for the allotment.

Upon confirmation of the presence of Lahontan cutthroat trout in Van Horn Creek by Boise State University in the fall of 1991, it was obvious that current management practices within the allotment needed to change rapidly. In the fall of 1992, a Working Group was organized from various and diverse interested individuals and groups. Meetings then began with a tour of the allotment to familiarize group members with each other and to look at the existing natural resources and use conflicts. Resources and special values include the Lahontan cutthroat trout, listed as threatened in 1991; bighorn sheep and sage grouse, both Category 2 candidates for listing; WSAs; Research Natural Areas (RNAs); streams; meadows; recreation opportunities; and, scenic values. Representation on the Working Group includes members of the Izaak Walton League, Sierra Club, ODFW, Harney County Court, local livestock interests, livestock permittees and the BLM.

Additional meetings were scheduled to identify allotment-specific objectives and to develop a management strategy that would meet these objectives. The process has been one of striving to achieve consensus over a period of nearly a year. Although lengthy discussion was the norm, the group completed its task of bringing forth an acceptable plan for the allotment in a relatively short period of time.

A draft AMP and associated EA, that mirrors the recommendation of the Working Group, will be completed in the next few months. This would not have been possible without the sincere commitment of all group members working together for a common goal of protecting and improving condition of the complex mix of natural resources existing on the allotment.

According to Glenn Patterson, Andrews Resource Area Manager, the considerable amount of time, energy and personal expenses contributed by the individual members of the two Working Groups are a clear testimony to their belief in the concept and commitment to developing feasible management plans. As the plans progress, opportunities for public reviews will be announced and citizens will be encouraged to comment on the proposals. Patterson says, "Effective ecosystem management depends on everyone doing their part."

For more information on the South Steens Allotment Working Group contact Jim Buchanan and for the Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment Working Group contact Willie Street, both can be reached at (503) 573-5241.

NATIVE AMERICAN COORDINATION

Public land administered by the BLM Burns District has historically been used by Native Americans from a number of different tribes. The Klamath, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Burns Paiute tribes of eastern Oregon, the Fort McDermitt tribe of northern Nevada, and the Fort Bidwell tribe of northeastern California all have vested interests in the public land and resources managed by the Burns District. Several factors influence the nature and intensity of tribal interests in particular parcels of the public land: the proximity of "ceded lands" (former tribal lands ceded by tribal governments to the U.S. Government in ratified treaties); treaty provisions for access to and use of "trust resources" within and outside ceded areas; and ancestral ties to public lands in the region.

Native American concerns about lands and resources in the Burns District have often been heritage-related, such as the protection of Indian burial grounds and archaeological sites, as well as the preservation of culturally-important landscapes and resources, particularly where traditional root gathering is practiced (Biscuitroot Cultural ACEC). Tribal interest in public land also includes issues that involve multi-resource management, land tenure adjustment, law enforcement, tribal economic development, and employment.



The Klamath Tribe has ceded lands in the western portion of the Three Rivers Resource Area and has ancestral ties to portions of the Andrews Resource Area, including the Steens Mountain region. The BLM Burns District and the Tribe have an informal working relationship and have cooperated in heritage preservation matters.

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation have ceded lands and ancestral ties in the northern portions of the Three Rivers Resource Area. The Confederated Tribes and several BLM district offices in Oregon, including the Burns District, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding that implements a working relationship between the two governments.

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs have ceded lands to the west of the Three Rivers Resource Area and have ancestral ties to portions of the District. The Burns District and the Confederated Tribes have an informal working relationship and have consulted in matters related to heritage preservation.

The Burns Paiute Tribe has trust lands in the Harney Valley and ancestral ties to major portions of the Burns District, but has no ceded lands since they lack a ratified treaty. The original Malheur Indian Reservation included the eastern portion of the Three Rivers Resource Area, and extended into the Vale District. The Burns District and the Burns Paiute Tribe have a good working relationship, although a formal agreement has not been completed. They regularly consult and interact in heritage preservation and resource management matters.

Other Federally-recognized tribes and reservations with ancestral ties to portions of the Burns District include the Fort McDermitt Shoshone-Paiute and the Fort Bidwell Paiute. Formal agreements have not been completed, however the Burns District and the Fort Bidwell Paiute have an informal working relationship and have cooperated in heritage preservation matters.

Any questions about coordination with Native American groups should be directed to Bruce Crespin at (503) 573-5241.

NORTHWEST MUSTANG-A-FAIR

A year of planning and cooperative efforts of several organizations and BLM employees from throughout Oregon assured the success of the 1993 Northwest Mustang-A-Fair, held in Burns on October 14-16, 1993. The central focus of the Mustang-A-Fair was the lottery adoption of 129 Kiger Mustangs, gathered from the Kiger and Riddle Mountain HMAs in September. With 426 people registering to adopt a "Kiger", including adopters from as far away as Florida, Indiana, Texas, and even Nome, Alaska, all of the mustangs were adopted in less than 3 hours.

Cooperating with the Burns District in planning the event were PRIDE, a local community improvement organization; the Kiger Mesteño Association; the Kiger Mustang Ranch; Western Heritage Enterprises; the Breyer Company; and, the Christian Cowboys Association.



Activities arranged by cooperating organizations included a horse training clinic conducted by three-time world champion cow horse trainer, Bobby Ingersoll, who used his adopted Kiger Mustang Kiger Cougar as a demonstration horse. Other activities included an arts and crafts/trade show, exhibition of several adopted Kiger Mustangs and progeny, and a community barbecue. A banquet sponsored by Kiger Mesteño Association featured keynote speaker K. Lynn Bennett, BLM Nevada Associate State Director, who gave an overview of BLM's National Wild Horse and Burro Program. The banquet also included a cowboy poet and a raffle for a yearling filly wild horse.

Burns District employees were joined by BLMers from the Salem, Eugene, Prineville, Lakeview, and Vale Districts, and the Baker City Resource Area who assisted with the news media, staffing of information stations, adopter registration, security, shuttle bus driving, and a variety of other tasks.

Over 1,000 excited people watched from the stands at the Harney County Fairgrounds arena as BLM Acting Oregon/Washington State Director Elaine Zielinski and Burns District Manager Mike Green gave opening remarks at the lottery drawing. As the drawing commenced and each number was announced, the crowd reacted with applause since the order of names drawn at the lottery would determine the order in which the winners could select a horse at the wild horse corrals the following day.

The number one lottery pick was a woman from Lakeview who selected a 6-month old grulla (pronounced grooya) filly. The number two pick went to a woman from Nome, Alaska, who also picked a young grulla (mouse grey) mustang. She will raise it along with her two Icelandics and one Norwegian Fjord horse. She was interested in adopting a wild horse since she feels their "survival genes" will be valuable in the harsh climate in Nome. Other mustangs went to new homes as distant as Texas and Indiana while some were adopted by local residents.

District Manager Mike Green attributes the success of the event to the tremendous support the sponsors and BLM employees provided and the use of the national Incident Command System to manage the complicated logistics, security, and intensive planning required. He believes the Incident Command System is designed to handle events such as wildfires, earthquakes, floods, and similar emergencies but is equally adaptable to planned events like the Mustang-A-Fair. Numerous compliments from the public and positive media coverage bears this out.

For more information on the wild horse adoption program, please contact Diana Dick or Ron Harding at (503) 573-5241.

RECREATION ON STEENS MOUNTAIN

A recently completed visitor use survey showed a high level of visitor satisfaction for Steens Mountain. The 235-page report, entitled "CUSTOMER", details data collected from people who visited the Steens Mountain Recreation Area between July 2, 1992 and October 12, 1992. The BLM contracted the study with researchers from the Southeastern Forest Experiment Station in Athens, Georgia. It will be used as a tool to determine how the agency can best manage recreation use to meet the needs of visitors.

The survey involved a combination of on-site interviews and mailback questionnaires aimed at recreation visitors age 12 and up. A total of 546 interviews were recorded at two different sites (along the North and South Loop Road) and 321 mailback questionnaires were returned, resulting in 867 individual surveys in all.

Demographic information or population characteristics show the typical visitor to Steens Mountain travels in a group averaging two persons, has had some college or has received a Bachelor's degree, is employed full-time, and generally travels with at least one other family member.

Trip profile characteristics indicate the typical visitor comes from Oregon (83 percent) with the vast majority from urban counties in western Oregon.

The most popular activity is auto touring along the Steens Mountain Loop Road for sightseeing, wildlife observation, and photography. Visitors typically travel between 200 and 500 miles for over 6 hours to arrive at Steens Mountain. Over half of all visitors make repeat visits. Most people stay in the area between three and six nights, but only visit one time per year. The most common reason people choose the Steens Mountain area is its outstanding scenery and because they visited the area previously and had an enjoyable experience. Survey data show most people learn about the Steens from family or friends or from personal knowledge. Brochures provide initial information about the area for only 15 to 20 percent of the visitors.

Visitor satisfaction was evaluated and rated in accordance with the National Satisfaction Index, a 7-point scale with most satisfaction being given a rating of 7. Overall experience at the Steens was rated above 6.4 approaching the level described as "delighted." Highest ratings were given because of condition and attractiveness of the natural features of the area. Other factors rating high were cleanliness of the facilities, variety of things to do, and helpfulness of the BLM employees and volunteers. Lowest overall ratings (just under 5.0 and up to 5.9) were given because of the condition of the roads, parking areas, and available information about the area.

In a recent comparison with the other 35 CUSTOMER surveys done nationwide, visitor satisfaction levels for the Steens Mountain area were rated very high.

The public were asked general questions relating to issues the BLM should address in managing the Steens Mountain Recreation Area. Most noted of these was: How do you feel about the condition of the Steens Mountain Loop Road? Would you like to see it improved, or remain in its present condition?

It should be noted that in the spring of 1992, the BLM spent over \$50,000 to upgrade an 18-mile section (from Page Springs to Fish Lake) of the Loop Road. This included pulling ditches, grading, watering, grid rolling, and replacing six cattleguards. The remaining Loop Road did not receive this intensive maintenance, but it was graded and grid rolled. The result was the Loop Road was in the best condition it had been for 20 years.

In general, half of all visitors felt the Loop Road was satisfactory in its present condition, and that it should be kept as it is. Somewhat under half felt some improvement would be desirable by upgrading it to a standard BLM gravel road, as it once was. Generally, around 5 percent felt the Loop Road should be upgraded by paving it and providing more regular maintenance.

For more information about recreation on Steens Mountain, please contact Steve Anderson, Fred McDonald, or Callie Webber at (503) 573-5241.



SUMMARY OF WORK 1993/1994 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PLANS

This summary includes 1993 accomplishments and 1994 planned work for the following programs:

Back Country Byways
Botany
Cultural Heritage Program
Ecological Site Inventory
Fire Management and Fire Suppression
Fish/Wildlife
Forestry
Lands and Realty
Minerals
Range Management
Recreation
Recreation Maintenance
Wilderness
Wild Horses
Vegetation Management

BACK COUNTRY BYWAYS

1993 Accomplishments

Harney County and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) gained approval from the Federal Highway Administration in September to receive funding under the 1992 Oregon Interim Transportation Enhancement Program to develop vehicle pull-outs and construct interpretive kiosks at several locations along the route of the Diamond Loop Back Country Byway. Under provisions of the Intermodal Transportation Act of 1991, Oregon is required to set aside Federal funds for projects to enhance the cultural and environmental values of the State's transportation system. The BLM proposed and submitted this project, sponsored by Harney County, to the Oregon Department of Transportation in November 1992.

The American Recreation Coalition donated two prefabricated kiosks to be installed at pull-out sites. Interpretive panels have been designed and ordered through private contractors.

A contract was issued to install two byway entrance signs with stone bases. In addition, a draft byway brochure has been written and will be printed to serve as an auto tour guide in conjunction with the interpretive kiosks.

A Memorandum of Understanding was entered into with the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge to allow the BLM to construct a pull-out on Refuge lands along State Highway 205 about 40 miles south of Burns.

1994 Plans

Through a partnership with Harney County, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Oregon Department of Transportation, the BLM expects to receive \$67,225 in grant funds to implement the Diamond Loop Back Country Byway Management Plan. This will include the development of pull-outs, installation of kiosks and interpretive panels, general signing, and printing of an auto tour guide. This project has been in the planning and coordination stages for 2 years and is now beginning to come together.

At meetings in Diamond and Frenchglen held in 1991, the residents of the Diamond area noted they would like to include a message at interpretive facilities, relating to management of ranchlands in Diamond Valley. If a parcel of suitable private land can be located, an agreement between the private donor and the BLM will be written to allow construction of a pull-out with an interpretive kiosk.

BOTANY

1993 Accomplishments

District botany staff activities this year included considerable coordination with other BLM districts and other agencies on matters of mutual interest. This resulted in joint field surveys for Special Status plant species with other BLM districts and the U.S. Forest Service, and a joint Conservation Agreement for a plant species inhabiting both the BLM Burns and Vale Districts. With design and staffing assistance from Ochoco National Forest plant program personnel, the Burns District presented a wildflower exhibit for the annual Harney County Migratory Bird Festival.

Districtwide accomplishments also included a substantial reorganization of the District's herbarium, to improve ease of use for researchers or other interested persons. The herbarium currently houses over 640 species of locally collected plants. Logistical support and plant collections were also provided to Berry Botanic Garden and to Lewis and Clark College for research work on local species.

Andrews Resource Area

Four Special Status plant species were monitored this year in compliance with District goals and management objectives:

Biddle's lupine, *Lupinus biddlei*, severely affected by past years of drought, reproduced well this year although overall population numbers remain low.

Three populations of solitary milkvetch, *Astragalus solitarius*, were monitored, and although populations have been affected by drought, population numbers remain stable. This species has been lowered in Federal status, and it will be recommended that monitoring intervals be increased from every 2 years to every 3 years.

One of two known populations of Davis' peppergrass, *Lepidium davisii*, was monitored this year, and showed the rejuvenating effects of a wet spring. Seeds from the *Lepidium* and from a weedy invader species were collected by District staff for use by Boise State University in research into the factors causing some plants to be able to retard the germination or growth of other plants.

A monitoring station was established this year for Steens Mountain paintbrush, *Castilleja pilosa* var. *steenensis*, near the summit of Steens Mountain. This species is a Federal Candidate, Category 2 plant.

Special Status species were also monitored on several Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) and Research Natural Areas (RNAs) this year. Tum Tum Lake RNA was visited to determine the extent of weed establishment within the RNA boundary. Unfortunately, three noxious weed species are now established in the RNA, and a control program for perennial pepperweed, whitetop, and halogeton will be necessary to halt further infestation. The South Fork Willow Creek RNA was visited and found to be in good condition in terms of the elements for which it was protected. A management plan update was completed for East Kiger Plateau RNA.

Botany program staff hosted a field tour of Systematic Botany students from Linfield College. The students collected plants for identification, and were shown some of the populations of Special Status plants being protected. Plant program staff also presented informal outdoor talks to various visiting public groups.

Three Rivers Resource Area

Field studies associated with the Malheur Wirelettuce, *Stephanomeria malheurensis*, Recovery Plan continued. Studies on this species were conducted by District plant program staff rather than by external contractors because of budget constraints. Throughout the growing season, 340 plants were counted and measured. Seeds were collected and submitted to Berry Botanic Garden as part of a long-term curation program.

New populations of several Special Status plant species were located during scheduled inventory activities. Three new populations of Leiberg's clover, *Trifolium leibergii*, were discovered this year, including the first population to be found on the west side of the Middle Fork of the Malheur River. All new and previously known populations were vigorous and healthy at the time of observation.



Three new populations of Deschutes milkvetch, *Astragalus tegetarioides*, were discovered during a 1,000-acre inventory. Two previously known (but not recently observed) populations of Columbia cress, *Rorippa columbiae*, were relocated, and two additional populations were discovered during this year's 1,560-acre inventory. District plant program staff were assisted in this inventory by a student from the Organization of Forgotten Americans.

The Oregon Youth Conservation Corps assisted the BLM in its weed management program. Their efforts were directed along Highway 20 between Riley and Burns, where mediterranean sage, *Salvia aethiopsis*, and knapweed, *Centaurea spp.*, are beginning to invade a population of Cusick's buckwheat, *Eriogonum cusickii*. They also hand-pulled medusahead, *Elymus caput-medusae*, along the highway right-of-way. District plant program staff hand-grubbed noxious mediterranean sage from approximately one-quarter mile of Highway 20 right-of-way east of Burns near Drinkwater Pass.

Research studies on medusahead were initiated by BLM's research group at Oregon State University. Medusahead is a widespread and aggressive weed that is increasing dramatically. One study is investigating if medusahead will adapt to loamy soils in addition to its preferred clayey soil sites. Another study is investigating if bottlebrush squirreltail, *Sitanion hystrix*, plants can successfully compete with medusahead.

Studies monitoring recovery from the Pine Springs Basin Fire continued, with assistance from The Nature Conservancy, in the Silver Creek RNA.

1994 Plans

Andrews Resource Area

The Andrews plant program will emphasize collection of new data and refinement of existing data on Special Status plants. These areas will be emphasized to prepare for the Andrews Resource Management Plan (RMP). Special Status plant inventories to be completed include: Raven's lomatium, *Lomatium ravenii*; Rafinesque's pondweed, *Potamogeton diversifolius*; verrucose seapurslane, *Sesuvium verrucosum*; and, Cusick's giant-hyssop, *Agastache cusickii*. Work planned by

The Nature Conservancy in the Alvord Desert through a proposed Challenge Cost-Share agreement will contribute significantly to data bases for Special Status species, ACECs, and RNAs.

The Steens Mountain Zones of Vegetation brochure has been updated and will be reprinted this year.

Three Rivers Resource Area

The Three Rivers botanical program will emphasize implementation of actions outlined for Special Status plants and ACECs in the Three Rivers RMP. In preparation for endangered species status decisions, to be made in 1996, botanical inventory for the Federal Candidate species Deschutes milkvetch, will continue on 1,000 acres. Management plans will be prepared for both the Foster Flat and Dry Mountain RNAs, and fencing to exclude livestock and wild horses in the Foster Flat RNA, will proceed on schedule. This project will include the installation of two cattleguards on a main road.

A Conservation Agreement will be prepared for Cusick's buckwheat, a Federal Candidate species. Malheur wirelettuce, a Federal Endangered species, will continue to be monitored in accordance with the Recovery Plan and the Conservation Agreement between BLM and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

CULTURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

1993 Accomplishments

The "Directions to the Past" cultural exposition, an interagency event carried out under the Bureauwide initiative "Adventures in the Past", providing high quality public education about a broad spectrum of publicly managed cultural resources, was held at the Harney County Fairgrounds from April 29 to May 2, 1993. Featured were Oregon Trail lore, Native American cultures, and the heritage of other ethnic groups. Participating with the BLM were the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as well as private volunteers and commercial sponsors.

Public outreach and site rehabilitation activities were ongoing throughout 1993 at the Biscuitroot Cultural ACEC. Efforts to manage and protect this significant traditional use area included tours for the Desert Conference, talks at the High Desert Museum in Bend and the Environmental Law Conference in Eugene, and reclamation of a closed gravel pit.

The authentic 1872 military munitions transport was the BLM's vanguard wagon in the reenactment of the Oregon Trail wagon train across Idaho and Oregon. It was also used as the BLM float in the Harney County Fair Parade, winning first place honors.

Projects at cultural sites in the Burns District related to "Directions to the Past" include:

The Andrews Resource Area continued efforts to facilitate and improve public use of the historic properties at the Riddle Brothers Ranch Historic District and the Andrews townsite. The barn roof at the Riddle Brothers Ranch was reconstructed and the barn and several other structures within the ranch complex were weatherized with surface applications of linseed oil. The Andrews townsite was evaluated for its historic significance and potential public use. Preliminary findings are that the properties probably comprise an important rural historic landscape and are a valuable public asset.

Efforts to improve public use of the Gap Ranch historic site in the Three Rivers Resource Area continued, including extensive shrub removal to reduce fire hazards at this Depression-era Civilian Conservation Corps complex. Also, in celebration of the Oregon Trail Sesquicentennial, the Burns District continued efforts to interpret the Meek/Elliott/Macy wagon routes through the Three Rivers Resource Area. We secured funding for, and installed three roadside heritage signposts in cooperation with the State of Oregon's Travel Information Council, the Harney County Historical Society, and the BLM Prineville District.



A Native American cultural and educational fair was held for the community in Burns, on November 5 and 6, 1993. This "Diversity Celebration" was sponsored by various local partners, including the Burns District, and featured American Indian craft sales and demonstrations, Native American dancers and drummers, an Indian storyteller, and topical video programs.

1994 Plans

A Districtwide paleontological study will be initiated to facilitate preservation and scientific study of fossils, as well as for future public enjoyment of the resource.

Andrews Resource Area

Historical architects will research and evaluate the Andrews townsite to determine its feasibility for preservation and the actions and costs associated with various options. An ongoing program to archive historically relevant background information has been initiated.

Three Rivers Resource Area

An activity plan for managing traditional cultural values in the Biscuitroot Cultural ACEC will be developed in coordination with Native American tribes and livestock operators.

Washington State University will initiate a study based upon paleoenvironmental data in support of ecosystem based management, and as part of a cost-share partnership.

The BLM will design two Oregon Trail roadside heritage signposts this year to be placed in Harney County, in a cost-share partnership between the Oregon State Travel Information Council, the Harney County Historical Society, and the Burns District. A third signpost will be funded at a future date.

The Gap Ranch historic site will continue to have fire hazards reduced and the area improved to accommodate public use.

ECOLOGICAL SITE INVENTORY

1993 Accomplishments

A national team of soil scientists and researchers from California, Nevada, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Nebraska and Washington converged on northern Nevada and eastern Oregon (Harney County) in August to study duripans. Duripans are composed of carbonatous and silicious precipitates which are characteristic of Great Basin areas influenced by volcanic ash. The tour was designed to achieve consistency among states in identifying duripans in the national soil classification system. Ecological Site Inventory team members, along with members of the Burns District Force Account crew were instrumental in the successful completion of the tour.

Members of the Ecological Site Inventory team, along with personnel from the local Soil Conservation Service (SCS) and the National Soil Survey Laboratory performed detailed sampling of soils surrounding Malheur Lake. The sampling project was initiated by the SCS to determine the effects past flooding of Malheur Lake has had on salt distribution in the soil.

Ecological Site Inventory personnel remapped previously inventoried areas on Steens Mountain. This was done to better fit existing plant communities with SCS range sites. Eight new SCS range sites were designated as a result of the remapping.

Field work for the BLM portion of the Harney County soil survey was finished in August 1993. BLM soil maps have been transferred onto mylar and compared to the official SCS orthophotos that will be used to finish soil maps.

Meetings were held to facilitate the transfer of administration of the Ecological Site Inventory crew from the Burns District Office to the Lakeview District Office in fiscal year 1994. Additional meetings were held to redesign inventory mapping procedures and to get available information compiled into a useful format before mapping begins again in July 1994. Other meetings were held between Burns District inventory crew, Lakeview District, the BLM Oregon State Office, and SCS personnel in order to streamline the process of getting data from the field into electronic databases. The data will be used by District personnel for land use planning efforts such as RMPs, activity plans such as Allotment Management Plans (AMPs), wild horse Herd Management Area (HMA) plans, wetland management plans, recreation management plans and support for allotment evaluations, wildfire rehabilitation efforts, realty actions (land exchanges, rights-of-way, material sites and road construction) and Environmental Assessments (EAs), just to name a few.

The Harney County soil survey manuscript, including hard and electronic copies of mapping unit descriptions, taxonomic unit descriptions, soil interpretation records containing engineering characteristics, and new official series descriptions, will be delivered to the SCS for inclusion into the published soil survey manuscript for Harney County in the spring and early summer of 1994.

1994 Plans

This will be a transition year for the Ecological Site Inventory team. They will be working to finish the Harney County, Burns District site inventory, while also starting the northern Lake County, Lakeview District inventory effort. The start of field mapping in northern Lake County is scheduled for July 1994. The exact date depends on completion of tasks by the BLM Oregon State Office Cartographic and Geographic Information System staffs by April 1994. The plan is to inventory about 200,000 acres starting in the northwest portion of Warner Valley heading in a northwesterly direction. It is estimated it will take about 6 years to complete the north Lake County inventory.

Several previously unplanned tasks were identified as being important to the Burns District in their use of Ecological Site Inventory range information. Among these tasks are: 1) Filling gaps in range data and 2) Generating site write-up areas (the smallest planning area where inventory data is collected) based on allotment and pasture boundaries. Work in the Burns District will be completed concurrently with the range tasks associated with the Lakeview District inventory. With present staffing, the Burns District inventory is scheduled for completion in February 1995.

FIRE MANAGEMENT AND FIRE SUPPRESSION

1993 Accomplishments

For the first time in 8 years, winter snowpack and spring and summer rains were normal or above normal. Due to the abundant moisture, grass and shrub growth over the entire District was amazing. With the heavy loading of fine fuels, the possibility of numerous and large fires existed. However, the above normal moisture received in June and July increased the live fuel moisture content of grasses and woody plants to a very high level and greatly reduced the fire hazard during the summer and fall of 1993.

The District recorded only 35 wildfires which burned a total of 246 acres, the lowest total of acres since 1961. Of the 35 fires occurring, 24 were lightning caused, and burned acreage was kept below 8 acres. The remaining 11 fires were human-caused and burned 238 acres. These numbers represent a substantial reduction in the 10-year average of 31,024 acres, with total number of fires at 58 percent of the average and acres burned less than 1-percent of the 10-year average.

1993 Accomplishments

Andrews Resource Area

Eleven wildfires burned approximately 10 acres. Two prescribed burns were carried out to enhance wildlife habitat and to control juniper trees encroaching into grassland areas. A total of 858 acres were successfully burned throughout the Resource Area.

As a result of the below-normal fire suppression activities, the fire crew at Frenchglen was able to complete the following projects to improve resource management.

- 2 prescribed burns covering 858 acres
- 9 fencing projects
- 7 recreation maintenance projects
- 4 facilities maintenance projects
- 1 road Maintenance project
- 1 noxious weed control project

Three Rivers Resource Area

Although the fire season ended quietly, there was a great deal of concern with the high level of fuels existing on the Pine Springs Basin Fire burn area. Fire suppression was given a high priority with one to three engine crews kept on alert, depending on weather conditions. A total of 24 fires burned 236 acres.

For the first time in eastern Oregon, an interagency engine crew was in place and supervised by the Burns District. The truck and crew foreman were funded by the Oregon Department of Forestry, with one crew member funded by the Malheur National Forest and the other crew member and operational costs funded by the BLM. The engine was available to all agencies for both fire suppression and resource project work. The agreement worked very well and will be continued in the coming year.

The following projects were completed by the fire crews at Burns:

- 1 prescribed burn of 1,000 acres
- 9 fencing projects
- 3 fire rehabilitation projects
- 3 juniper eradication projects
- 2 hazard reduction projects
- 7 wild horse inventory helicopter flights
- 15 resource management reconnaissance flights
- 2 soil stabilization projects
- 2 sign construction projects
- 3 public service projects
- 1 firewood cutting project to provide firewood for campgrounds
- 2 precommercial thinning projects

1994 Plans

The 1994 District Fire Management organization will be at the same level as last year, with nine engine crews, one helicopter with crew, two lookouts, logistics operation (five positions), and four overhead positions.

Interagency coordination and cooperation will continue to be a high priority. The interagency guard station at Frenchglen, the interagency fire engine crew in Burns, and the sharing of costs for the Dry Mountain lookout will continue. The District will continue to pursue a multi-agency fire dispatch organization and an interagency fire cache as a means of improving efficiency and reducing overall operational costs among agencies.

The prescribed fire program is expected to increase in future years to assist the District in meeting the goal of making fire a part of the natural ecosystem under controlled conditions.

FISH/WILDLIFE

1993 Accomplishments

Andrews Resource Area

The major emphasis this year has been on monitoring riparian habitat and control of juniper on the north end of Steens Mountain. Two hundred acres were burned in the Sagehen Reservoir area and 600 acres were burned in the Wildcat Ridge area to control invasion of western juniper into sagebrush/grassland. A private contractor cut trees on 340 acres near McCoy Creek to release aspen being choked out by invading junipers, and to improve forage and watershed conditions. Another 890 acres of juniper have been marked for control in the Moon Hill, Cucamonga Creek, and Willow Springs areas. Fences along Bridge and Krumbo Creeks, designed to protect riparian resources from grazing, were maintained. Section 7 consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was completed for Denio Creek and Van Horn Creek.

The Burns District consulted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the impacts of livestock grazing along Denio and Van Horn Creeks on the threatened Lahontan cutthroat trout. Discussion items included grazing systems which would protect and improve riparian vegetation and streambanks. During February 1993, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) personnel captured a number of California bighorn sheep on the east side of Steens Mountain and transplanted them to other sites outside the District, in conformance with the Oregon Bighorn Sheep Management Plan covering the period from 1992 through 1997.



Three Rivers Resource Area

A pipeline was extended from a trough into the Grassy Butte wetland project to provide permanent water in a playa. Excess water from Palomino Buttes Well will help create 25 acres of permanent wetland. The area will be fenced to provide good quality nesting habitat for waterfowl. Fencing was completed along Claw Creek to facilitate improvement in riparian vegetation. Approximately 17,000 bitterbrush and 12,000 mountain mahogany seedlings were planted in the Pine Springs Basin Fire burn area. Young, naturally regenerated mountain mahogany seedlings were protected from browsing by cutting mahogany skeletons and placing them over the seedlings. This project took place over about 600 acres in the Pine Springs burn area. Also, 475 acres of western juniper were cut by chain saw and left on the ground in the Alder Creek Allotment to improve wildlife habitat and watershed conditions.

Challenge Cost-Share funds were provided by ODFW for planting and protecting mahogany seedling in the Pine Springs burn area. Additionally, Ducks Unlimited and ODFW contributed toward the construction of the Grassy Butte wetland project.

Inventory of riparian habitat was completed on 20 miles of streams along with inventory of 50,000 acres of long-billed curlew, ferruginous hawk, and other raptor habitat. Observations were made of bird species occurring in designated old growth ponderosa pine areas.

Monitoring occurred on 8 wetland areas, 13 riparian areas, 15 browse study sites, 3 fire recovery sites, bald eagle winter roosts, and sage grouse leks.

A cooperative study to determine cattle use of bitterbrush seedlings was begun with the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center.

1994 Plans

Andrews Resource Area

Emphasis will be placed on collecting additional aquatic habitat inventory data in the Blitzen River watershed, Home Creek, and on streams along the east side of Steens Mountain containing Lahontan cutthroat trout. Using a helicopter, sage grouse leks will be inventoried on 40,000 acres in the spring of 1994. Radio transmitters, purchased in 1993, will be attached to sage grouse in cooperation with the ODFW in order to track bird movements on Steens Mountain. The Burns District Bighorn Sheep Habitat Management Plan will be revised.

In cooperation with ODFW and Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, a contract will be issued to cut 890 acres of juniper. A study is being initiated this summer to better understand the impact of juniper stand densities on the abundance and composition of understory plant species; production of forage for livestock and wildlife; other characteristics of the plant community; and, infiltration, runoff, and erosion in juniper stands on the north half of Steens Mountain. The study is in cooperation with the Northern Great Basin Range Experiment Station and The Nature Conservancy. It is expected to take 3 years to complete the study.

One meadow in the Moon Hill area would be fenced to allow healing of eroding streambanks. Volunteers will conduct an inventory of nongame small mammals on Steens Mountain and for reptiles in the Alvord Desert.

Three Rivers Resource Area

Monitoring of important riparian and wetland areas will continue. Other monitoring includes water quality sampling on selected streams, Cole browse transects, bald eagle roosts, upland project photo plots, snowy plover nest areas, and sage grouse leks. Inventory of Preble's shrew, ferruginous hawk, sage grouse, and snowy plover habitat will continue.

The Stinkingwater ecosystem management project will be implemented this year. About 10 miles of fence will be constructed to put the upper reaches of Stinkingwater Creek into a pasture which will be rested for 5 years then grazed in a manner to promote continued riparian improvement. Also, juniper will be cut from two areas where they are outcompeting aspen stands, one area inside and one outside the newly-created pasture. This is a cooperative project with Wilber Brothers Ranch, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, ODFW, and Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. A cooperative project with ODFW will be to install three cattleguards in the Jack Creek Pasture to alleviate problems with gates being left open.

Districtwide

Ducks Unlimited will contribute in-kind engineering expertise for survey and design of three wetland developments - North Catlow Valley, Chain Lakes, and Silvies Valley wetlands. An inventory will be started of burrowing owl habitat.

FORESTRY

1993 Accomplishments

Andrews Resource Area

This area had minimal forestry activity.

Three Rivers Resource Area

In the spring and summer of 1993, following public involvement, the Cow Creek Forest Management Plan and EA were completed. It analyzed forest management options in the Cow Creek and East Cow Creek areas and will result in the sale of approximately 338,000 board feet of timber. The South Silvies Timber Sale, which will offer approximately 300,000 board feet of timber, underwent an internal review to ensure old growth dependant species would not be adversely impacted by the sale. This timber is at high risk of loss due to cumulative stress from drought and resulting infestations of bark beetles.

A 95-acre precommercial thinning was completed in the Beaverdam Creek area. The BLM fire crew completed thinning another 12 acres in the same area.

All forested areas on the Burns District were examined to document the extent of forest health problems. Tree mortality was heavy only in localized areas.

Demand for special forest products has continued to increase substantially. This year 313,000 pounds of berry-laden juniper boughs were sold to be used in Christmas decorations and wreaths. Permits were issued for over 100 cords of juniper firewood and 200 juniper fence posts.

A timber cruise was conducted in the Silvies Valley to provide data for equalization of land values in connection with the proposed Ponderosa land exchange (see Lands section).

1994 Plans

Andrews Resource Area

No significant commercial activity is planned.

Three Rivers Resource Area

The emphasis for 1994 is to attempt to improve the health of our forest ecosystems. As previously mentioned, approximately 300,000 board feet of high-risk timber will be offered for sale in the South Silvies area. Approximately 200 acres of overstocked and unhealthy pine stands will be precommercially thinned to improve vigor and overall health of the stands.

The Gus Well Forest Management Plan and EA will analyze forest management options in the Emigrant Butte area in order to address adjacent landowners' forest health concerns. Work on the Cow Creek Timber Sale, designed to address adjacent landowners' forest health concerns, will proceed as workload allows.

Volunteers will continue to plant ponderosa pine seedlings in areas damaged by the Pine Springs Basin and Skull Creek Fires.

LANDS AND REALTY

1993 Accomplishments

Andrews Resource Area

One microwave communication site was completed by U.S. West on Buckskin Mountain. This project enhances telephone communications in the Alvord Desert area. One occupancy trespass on a millsite was resolved with the occupant moving and clean-up of the area is in progress.

All realty-related land use activities were monitored to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of appropriate permits.

Preliminary negotiations began on several land exchange proposals as well as continued work on an existing land exchange proposal and three acquisitions of offered lands.

Work is continuing on the Harney County solid waste disposal sites (see Three Rivers Section).

Three Rivers Resource Area

Two rights-of-way were granted for small-scale electrical distribution lines. In addition, two road use agreements for short-term hauling of private timber across existing roads on public land were processed. Due to the improved accessibility resulting from snow plowing of one of these roads near Burns/Hines, a temporary public road closure was required to limit road damage and wildlife stress from unnecessary vehicular traffic during last spring's breakup.

One license agreement was acquired from the Malheur National Forest to support the BLM's South Silvies Timber Sale. License agreements are the mechanism by which the two agencies obtain permission to utilize each others roads for commercial purposes.

Pacific Power and Light completed construction of six new towers along a section of their 500 kV transmission line which crosses the Resource Area. The work was necessary to bolster the structural integrity of the line where it crosses the Stinkingwater Mountains. Due to ice loading, two towers on this section collapsed during the winter of 1991.

A land use permit was issued to Harney County for continued use of a site near Five Mile Dam to stockpile gravel and process asphalt. The permit is for a term of 3 years in order to allow the county enough time to utilize existing stockpiles and find an alternate location for future activity. All realty-related land use activities were monitored to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the appropriate permit.

Final action was completed by the BLM Oregon/Washington State Office on two withdrawal review cases. Withdrawal review is a process mandated by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act to ensure land withdrawals are being utilized for the purpose for which they were originally established or to return them to multiple-use management. Lands downrange from the Burns Butte Public Shooting Range were posted and closed to entry. This action is necessary to provide a safety buffer beyond the shooting range.

The Sod House School, a historical one-room schoolhouse, was removed from lands patented in 1984 to the Sod House School District. The Crane School District, successor to the Sod House School District, cooperatively worked with the BLM to restore the lands and return the acreage to public ownership, in compliance with the terms of the Recreation and Public Purposes patent.

Potentially affected parties were notified of initiation of the Ponderosa Exchange. This exchange would acquire important riparian, wet meadow, and wetland habitat and reduce the intermingled public and private lands in the Silvies Valley north of Burns.

A timber appraisal, completed in fiscal year 1992, identified disparate values between private and public lands involved in the Petersen Exchange. As a result, the exchange had to be reappraised and renegotiated. Cultural resource values remain an important concern in this exchange. Riparian habitat, including approximately 1-mile of Silver Creek northwest of Riley, would be acquired through this exchange. The property would be included in the Silver Creek ACEC.

The Harney County Exchange was deferred pending completion of a County Solid Waste Management Plan. The exchange would convey lands to the county for six county-operated solid waste disposal sites. Preliminary negotiations continued on other potential exchanges.

1994 Plans

Demand for rights-of-way is expected to continue at the present rate. Rights-of-way and other land uses will be monitored to ensure compliance with the conditions of permits. Several additional withdrawal review cases will be processed during the coming year. These cases will involve lands withdrawn by BLM, primarily for public water reserves.

Upon completion of the Harney County Solid Waste Management Plan, scheduled for the spring of 1994, a decision will be made by the County, in consultation with the BLM, about continuing a land exchange effort to provide the county with lands for permanent solid waste disposal sites or transfer stations. If the county opts to close existing sites, the BLM will work with county officials to ensure closure requirements prescribed by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality are followed and the lands are restored to as near their original condition as possible.

Andrews Resource Area

The millsite occupancy trespass site will be restored and a second occupancy trespass will be resolved. A right-of-way request was received for property near Alvord.

The Thompson Exchange will be finalized when timber on the private offered land has been appraised and the cultural resource consultations are completed. Two rental appraisals will be conducted for the stone house at Andrews and the white house on the Wildhorse property. Two land appraisals for proposed exchanges will be conducted for Ed Davis/Wildhorse and Charles Otley/Kiger properties.

An inventory will be made of easements that are needed in the Resource Area.

Three Rivers Resource Area

Processing of the Petersen and Ponderosa Exchanges could be completed this fiscal year or early next year. Processing work will include completion of appraisals, cultural resource evaluations, and preparation of an EA. Processing of the Harris Exchange will begin in earnest this year. The Root Exchange is pending action by the proponent to secure clear title. With whatever time remains, serious negotiations will be initiated on those exchanges considered for processing in fiscal year 1995.

Preliminary investigations and inventories of isolated land parcels suitable for public land sales will be initiated. Land sales are being considered to help resolve county concerns about the reduction of the private land tax base resulting from Federal land acquisitions.

MINERALS

1993 Accomplishments

A reference notebook has been developed for the front desk which contains maps, photos, and sales information for several sources of sand and gravel and cinder for small over-the-counter sales. Larger-volume sales and free use permits to the Harney County Road Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Oregon State Highway Division continue to be processed through the Resource Area. Twenty-two sales and free use permits were issued in 1993, most of them in the Three Rivers Resource Area.

The Burns District exhibit at the Harney County Fair on mining and reclamation featured plants used in reclamation of disturbed areas. It also included examples of reclamation in progress, and a discussion of diatomite mining, materials source (road rock) mining, decorative stone removal, and potential zeolite mining. The exhibit won a champion booth ribbon.

Compliance inspections were conducted for all mineral activities. As a result of the new regulations covering rental fees for mining claims, the active claim count in Oregon and Washington dropped by approximately 60 percent from around 37,000 claims to 14,863.

Andrews Resource Area

Drilling and testing for geothermal resources near Fields were allowed to proceed as a result of a May 6, 1993, decision issued by the Interior Board of Land Appeals. Seven environmental groups had appealed BLM's decision to allow the exploratory activity proposed by Anadarko Petroleum Corporation in 1990.

The Interior Board of Land Appeals decision found that BLM properly consulted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the endangered fish species (the Borax chub), that BLM carefully reviewed the environmental impacts and had imposed adequate restrictive stipulations, and had properly declined to consider the effect of construction of full-scale geothermal production facilities because none had been proposed.

Anadarko drilled two wells and deepened an existing well to 2,500 feet and conducted a 4-hour flow test at each of the two new wells. This activity and monitoring of Borax Lake took place during September through December 1993. Anadarko will analyze the information obtained by the drilling and flow testing and use the results in their future plans for the site.

Exploratory holes for mineral materials (road rock) were drilled at the Butler Extension and Roaring Butte sites. Field examination of the drill core shows sufficient rock quality and quantity for use on the South Loop Road on Steens Mountain.

Baseline geologic data is now being gathered in preparation for the Andrews RMP. Geologists from the U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Bureau of Mines met in July with BLM geologists to coordinate inventory efforts.

The new regulations for rental fees for locatable minerals resulted in two notices of intent from claimants in Andrews Resource Area during 1993.

Three Rivers Resource Area

Commercial interest in the Pollock Draw decorative stone site led to the determination that so long as the site is under a State right-of-way permit, no sales can be permitted until the permit is relinquished. The permit designates the rock for State use only, and only for use on State highways.

Small noncommercial purchases of decorative stone from Mill Creek and Pine Creek are permitted by over-the-counter sales at the BLM office. Commercial sales will not be permitted from these sites due to the limited amount of rock available there. There is consistent demand by local residents for small amounts of decorative stone for personal use, and their removal activity has had negligible impact on the land. The BLM will continue to monitor the sites for negative impacts and revise this sales policy as needed.

The Resource Area Manager has used his discretionary authority to decide that petrified wood will be made available for noncommercial collection only. The maximum limit per person is 25 pounds per day plus one piece and 250 pounds per year. Pooling of quotas to obtain pieces over 250 pounds is prohibited. The petrified wood collected from Burns District public lands must not be bartered or sold to commercial dealers.

The International Zeolite Conference, held in Boise in June 1993, ended with a field trip that brought approximately 60 participants to look at the zeolite deposits south of Harney Lake.

Continued low-level interest in gold was evinced by the trenching activity of a mining company in the Drewsey area. A small-scale mining operation continues to remove 5 to 10 tons of thundereggss yearly in the vicinity of Buchanan.

Eagle-Picher Minerals, Inc., continues to remove diatomite from their mine on the Harney County/Malheur County line. Approximately 35 percent of the production is from Federal land.

1994 Plans

Development and reclamation plans for BLM materials sources will be prepared as time allows. Compliance inspections will continue on all minerals activities. Field inspections of mined land, prospects, and exploration sites will begin in the summer of 1994. Inventory data will be used to identify the amount of land in need of reclamation, with particular emphasis on identifying sites containing physical or chemical hazards.

Andrews Resource Area

Burns District, The Nature Conservancy, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and ODFW will jointly update the habitat management plan for the Borax Lake area, including both private and public land. The District will continue to coordinate and participate in long-term monitoring and baseline research at Borax Lake.

Interim reclamation of the three drill pads used by Anadarko will begin in March. Additional geothermal exploration activity will be contingent upon Anadarko's announcement of their future plans.

Data-gathering and coordination with the U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Bureau of Mines will continue in preparation for the Andrews RMP. Most of the field work will be accomplished during 1994. The Burns District will prepare a draft report on mineral materials (road rock) sources for an April meeting with U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Bureau of Mines in Reno. A July meeting in Burns will include field trips to discuss preliminary findings.

Three Rivers Resource Area

Botanical and archeological clearances on the block of claims held by Eagle-Picher Minerals, Inc., will be completed as needed for proposed exploratory drilling.

RANGE MANAGEMENT

1993 Accomplishments

For more detail regarding the accomplishments and planned actions in the rangeland management program, please refer to the Rangeland Program Summary Updates for both Resource Areas which can be found elsewhere in this document.



Andrews Resource Area

Vegetation monitoring was conducted on 31 grazing allotments. Monitoring data was collected on forage utilization levels and patterns, actual use, climate, and trend in range conditions.

No new AMPs were completed. One allotment evaluation was completed on the Mud Creek Allotment No. 6005. Considerable progress was made through the efforts of Working Groups and District staff specialists toward the development of AMPs for the South Steens and Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotments.

Range improvements accomplished are:

- 23 reservoirs/waterholes reconstructed or maintained
- 2 miles of pipeline constructed
- 5 water troughs placed or replaced
- 150 acres of existing seeding maintained
- 752 acres of prescribed burning completed
- 2 cattleguards placed, 1 cleaned
- 3 water pumps installed in existing wells
- 2 springs reconstructed (troughs moved off meadow areas)
- 2 spring exclosures maintained

Three Rivers Resource Area

Vegetation monitoring was conducted on 84 allotments. Monitoring data includes forage utilization levels and patterns, actual use, climate, and trend in range condition.

Four new AMPs were completed and three existing plans were revised. Eight allotment management evaluations were completed.

Range improvements constructed, installed or repaired include:

- 3 cattleguards cleaned
- 2 cattleguard installed
- 2 springs developed
- 1 well drilled
- 1 well redrilled
- 1 well pump replaced
- 7 reservoirs and waterholes reconstructed
- 16.7 miles of management fence constructed

1994 Plans

Andrews Resource Area

Vegetation monitoring will be completed on 33 grazing allotments. AMPs will be completed on three allotments - Hammond Allotment No. 6023, Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment No. 6020, and South Steens Allotment No. 6002.

Eight grazing allotments will be evaluated including Fish Creek-Big Indian Allotment No. 6003, Frazier Field Allotment No. 6006, Trout Creek Mountain Allotment No. 6015, Tule Springs Allotment No. 6018, Hammond Allotment No. 6023, Mann Lake Allotment No. 6026, Reicken's Corner Allotment No. 6030, and Lavoy Tables Allotment No. 6031.

Planned range improvements include:

- 7 reservoirs/waterholes to be maintained or reconstructed
- 3 cattleguards to be placed
- 5 miles of fence to be constructed
- 2,300 acres of prescribed burning
- 2 miles of pipeline to be constructed
- 5 springs to be fenced or maintained
- 5 troughs to be placed off-site at springs
- 890 acres of juniper cutting

Three Rivers Resource Area

Allotment management evaluations will be completed on 14 allotments.

AMPs will be completed on 18 allotments. Seven of these will be revised plans and eleven will be new plans.

Planned range improvements include:

- 7 troughs replaced at spring developments
- 1 spring development reconstructed
- 4 reservoirs constructed (pending receipt of State permits).
- 2 cattleguards cleaned
- 1 reservoir reconstructed
- 1,100 acres burned and seeded
- 6.9 miles of management fence reconstructed
- 11 miles of management fence constructed
- 1 spring development constructed

RECREATION

1993 Accomplishments

Andrews Resource Area

The final Donner und Blitzen National Wild and Scenic River Management Plan and EA was completed. The Andrews Management Amendment Plan for Recreation Access Surrounding the Steens Mountain Loop Road was completed. An EA for the Frenchglen Interpretive Center and Administrative Complex was completed, in coordination with Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

New entrance signs were constructed and installed at the north and south entrances to the Loop Road leading onto Steens Mountain. The Steens Mountain Video was completed and shown during three open houses. The Steens Mountain Visitor Use Analysis, which began in 1992, was completed and summarized in an August 1993 document. An interpretive brochure has been developed for the old nature trail located at Page Springs.

The 11th annual Chris Miller Memorial Steens Rim Run was another success with almost 200 people participating. The race continues to grow in popularity each year. The Burns District, along with 25 volunteers, and many private sponsors helped make the Rim Run an enjoyable experience.

Three Rivers Resource Area

The Oregon Youth Conservation Corps and fire crews cleaned up trash at Diamond Craters Outstanding Natural Area this summer. Old fences and corrals were removed from 80 acres of public land (former State land) at the Craters. An old, shallow, hand-dug well will be filled in and the area will be allowed to return to a natural state. The auto tour guide was also reprinted for the Outstanding Natural Area.

One Special Recreation Use Permit was issued for the Meek's Lost Wagon Train Horse Endurance Ride. This ride is becoming an annual event which begins in Vale and ends near Wagonfire Mountain, generally following the route taken by the wagon train led by Stephen Meek in 1847.

A draft management plan and portions of the site development plan were written for the Chickahominy Recreation Site. The two plans will be incorporated into one document to be used by the various managing partners of the Chickahominy Reservoir/Recreation Site. Partners in this long-term recreation area and site development project are the BLM, ODFW, Harney County, the State Marine Board and adjacent private landowners.

Coordination meetings took place throughout the year for a proposal to develop a visitor center in Burns. The Center would be the hub for orienting visitors to various natural, historical, and cultural features available in Harney County and southeastern Oregon. Current partners in this endeavor are the BLM, Harney County Court, Harney County Chamber of Commerce, City of Burns, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Burns Paiute Tribe, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

1994 Plans

Andrews Resource Area

In June 1993, the Oregon/Washington State Director issued a proposed plan for recreation related facilities on Steens Mountain. The final Andrews Plan Amendment for Recreation Access Surrounding the Steens Mountain Loop Road and EA (amendment to the Andrews Management) was the subject of one protest. The protest is being reviewed by the Director of the BLM and a decision is expected shortly. If the decision sustains the proposed actions, the Burns District will proceed to construct the improvements on Steens Mountain, mostly in the vicinity of the Loop Road. All facilities will conform to the actions outlined in the plan and EA. Proposed improvements for the Resource Area are as follows:

Placing a mixture of crushed rock (gravel) and 2 percent bentonite clay as a binder on the Loop Road to protect the surface of the road and keep gravel in place to reduce maintenance.

Construction of parking areas, trails, and observation pads at several overlooks on Steens Mountain. Facilities would be located within existing disturbed areas.

Construction of a new campground along the south segment of the Loop Road near the turnoff to Big Indian Gorge.

Construction of a parking and staging area and marking of a foot-trail near the mouth of Wildhorse Canyon.

Continue to upgrade and refurbish signs throughout the Resource Area.

Three Rivers Resource Area

A partnership with our neighboring BLM Vale District and the Desert Trail Association has been created. The partnership will coordinate the completion of botanical and archaeological clearances, an EA, trail location, signing, trailhead developments, brochures and agreements with private landowners for the last three segments of the Desert Trail before it enters the Malheur National Forest near the North Fork of the Malheur River.

An interagency agreement and Memorandum of Understanding will be written to facilitate efforts to develop a visitor center in Burns. Support has been gained for the project from various community, county and agency leaders as well as from Congressman Bob Smith and Senator Mark Hatfield.

An entrance portal sign with a native stone base will be installed in Devine Canyon north of Burns to inform visitors of a scenic corridor that has been established by the Burns District along U.S. Highway 395. The U.S. Forest Service has also established a scenic corridor to preserve and protect outstanding scenic values along this regional highway.

Several volunteer project are planned including erecting pre-fabricated kiosks, building perimeter fences and installing general signing for the proposed pull-outs for the Diamond Loop Back Country Byway; picking up trash on Radar Hill near Burns; repainting the trailhead sign for the Sagehen Hill Nature Trail; and, continued clean-up of old dump sites in Diamond Craters.



RECREATION MAINTENANCE

1993 Accomplishments

Andrews Resource Area

Page Springs Campground

Two new campsites with steel/wood picnic tables and steel fire grills were added. Gravel was placed around buildings and on driveways leading to the campsite.

Fish Lake Campground

Thirteen new steel/wood picnic tables and steel fire grills were added.

Jackman Park Campground

A new firewood bin has been installed.
A worn out waste water sump has been replaced.
The campsite driveways have been graveled.

Steens Mountain Loop Road

Forty percent of the information signs were removed and refurbished. The road was bladed and all washed out areas were repaired.

Mann Lake Recreation Site

Watchable wildlife and cooperative management signs have been installed.

Three Rivers Resource Area

Maintenance of the Chickahominy Recreation Site was continued since this was the first year the fishery was back in production after the recent long-term drought caused the reservoir to go dry. The reservoir filled to overflowing last spring and rainbow trout were reintroduced to reestablish this high-quality fishery. No fees will be charged at the site until it is upgraded to warrant a campground fee.

The Sagehen Hill Nature Trail, located at the highway rest area west of Burns, was maintained and monitored for degree of use. Brochures were made available for the public at the trailhead. This trail introduces the traveling public to some of the natural landmarks, vegetation, and wildlife in the high desert and encourages them to inquire at the Harney County Chamber of Commerce for additional information on recreational opportunities in the area.

1994 Plans

Three Rivers Resource Area

The two rest rooms at Chickahominy Recreation Site will be replaced with new Rom-Tec vault toilets. The current rest rooms have been in use for about 20 years and no longer meet health standards.

WILDERNESS

1993 Accomplishments

Interim management continued on all designated Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs). Activities include physically checking each WSA a minimum of once each month, when accessible, to ensure wilderness values are not impaired. Both ground and aerial surveillance methods were utilized to perform this mandatory monitoring. Interim management surveillance plans are updated annually to ensure coverage. Monitoring and compliance field checks were conducted throughout the field season in all WSAs.

The destiny of each WSA administered by the BLM rests with Congress. The BLM has accomplished all Congressionally mandated reporting requirements established in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. Until Congress acts, WSAs under BLM jurisdiction will be managed according to Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review.

1993 Accomplishments

The following specific projects were accomplished in 1993:

The Burns District wilderness program brochure was updated.

The Steens Mountain wilderness program brochure was updated.

Signs are being placed at trailheads in higher visitor use areas. Information contained in these portal stations include visitor registration and outdoor educational materials regarding "Leave No Trace" camping principles.

Four old dump sites were cleaned up and the areas rehabilitated. Two sites are within the Red Mountain (2-78) and Alvord Peak (2-83) WSAs, while the other two sites were on adjacent public lands.

Two short dead-end vehicle routes were closed and rehabilitated in the Pueblo Mountains (2-81) WSA.

Three miles of old nonfunctional fence were removed at three different locations within the High Steens (2-85F) and Little Blitzen Gorge (2-86F) WSAs.

A portion of the Little Blitzen Gorge trail was relocated to better protect sensitive soils and vegetation on steep hillslopes.

Sites disturbed by off-highway vehicle use were rehabilitated within two WSAs.

An old abandoned outhouse was removed from the Basque Hills (2-84) WSA.

A sign providing tourist information about public land and promoting "Leave No Trace" camping and hiking was placed in the town of Fields.

WSA boundary location signs were placed at strategic locations to warn the public that vehicle use is restricted.

1994 Plans

Interim management of WSAs will continue. Proposed projects in WSAs will be evaluated to determine consistency with BLM's Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review. Field surveillance and compliance activities will continue for each of the District's 23 WSAs.

Proposed activities include:

Two short, dead-end vehicle routes will be closed and rehabilitated in the Pueblo Mountains (2-81) WSA.

Two old abandoned mines will be reclaimed in the Pueblo Mountains (2-81) and Alvord Peak (2-83) WSAs.

Removal of old, unneeded fences will continue within WSAs. Potential fence removal projects exist in the Rincon (2-82) and Little Blitzen Gorge (2-86F) WSAs.

Removal of the remains of a cabin will be done in the High Steens (2-85F) WSA.

Minor maintenance of primitive trails in the Little Blitzen Gorge (2-86F) WSA will continue to protect soil and vegetation resources.

Several segments of road pioneered parallel to the Steens Mountain Loop Road along the summit have been closed and will be rehabilitated in the High Steens (2-85F) WSA. Work would be done by hand with only minor surface disturbance.

Public outreach efforts will be expanded by focusing on better identification of WSA boundaries and toward increased education of visitors in "Leave No Trace" camping and hiking techniques. Outreach efforts will include the following actions:

The Burns and Vale Districts will work on a joint brochure for the Mahogany Ridge (2-77) and Red Mountain (2-78) WSAs in the Trout Creek Mountains.

Brochures and other outdoor educational material will be distributed to the public to promote positive hiking, camping and back country driving land use ethics. This material was developed by the National Outdoor Leadership School and the "Tread Lightly" organization.

A wilderness coloring and activity book will be developed for children. The BLM hopes this can be an interagency effort suitable for use at the national level.

Efforts to place signs along all WSA boundaries will continue.

Additional information stations will be located at important trailheads on WSA boundaries, including low profile trailhead signs, visitor registration materials, and "Leave No Trace" information materials.

A sign will be located at important trailheads giving information on use restrictions in WSAs.

A wilderness display exhibit will be located in the Burns District Public Room in February, March, April and May 1994.

A monitoring plan will be written for the Little Blitzen Gorge (2-86F) WSA to initiate the gathering of baseline data to guide management of the area. The monitoring plan will be used as a prototype for development of future plans for other WSAs.

A Wilderness Public Outreach Plan will be developed, the WSA Surveillance Plan will be revised, and the District Interim Management Plan updated.

WILD HORSES

1993 Accomplishments

Oregon's Adopt-A-Horse Program was very successful during 1993. A total of 186 wild horses and 21 burros were adopted in Oregon and Washington.

The Burns District, in cooperation with the Spokane District, held two satellite adoption activities in Odessa, Washington. A total of 46 horses and 12 burros were adopted during the two events.

A total of 140 horses and 9 burros were adopted at the Burns Wild Horse Corrals. One hundred twenty-six horses were adopted during two scheduled adoptions and on a first-come-first-served basis throughout the year as animals became available. An additional adoption was held for 14 Kiger-like horses and successful adopters were selected from 61 applications.

The Burns District also shipped wild horses to four other states including 49 horses to Tucson, Arizona; 42 horses to Marion, Wisconsin; 47 horses to Crockett, Texas; and 45 horses to Baton Rouge, Louisiana. All horses were successfully adopted.

The demand for Oregon wild horses remains high as was evidenced by the 750 active applications on hand at the end of the fiscal year. The public has continued to show a great deal of interest in seeing wild horses, both at the wild horse corrals, west of Burns, and in their native habitat.

The 6-year drought was broken by the above-average moisture received during the winter of 1992-1993. This has greatly improved the forage and water available on all HMAs and horses were in very good physical condition.

Andrews Resource Area

On December 17, 1992, 12 horses in the South Steens HMA were moved from the Frazier Field Allotment to the South Steens Allotment due to a shortage of forage in the pasture. Later that month, four horses were removed from the Skull Creek area.

Wild horse numbers and distribution were monitored on the South Steens HMA on June 23 and August 25. The June 23 count totaled 272 head and showed that a gathering was still needed to maintain the thriving ecological balance with wildlife, livestock and other resources. The August 25 count was used to check overall distribution of wild horses in relation to the riparian areas. It was determined a roundup was needed, so a plan and EA were completed. The decision to gather the horses was appealed by the Audubon Society of Portland, so no gathering of horses was accomplished pending resolution of that appeal.

On August 12, horse numbers and their distribution were monitored on the Heath Creek-Sheepshead and the Alvord-Tule Springs HMAs. A total of 54 horses were counted on the Heath Creek-Sheepshead area and 113 head were counted on the Alvord-Tule Springs area. Both counts were below the maximum level of horse numbers as determined in the Management Framework Plan of August 1982.

Three Rivers Resource Area

Fifty-three excess Kiger Mustang horses were removed from the Riddle HMA, and 80 from the Kiger HMA. Monitoring of horse numbers and their distribution was conducted in the Kiger, Riddle, Warm Springs and Palomino Buttes HMAs. The monitoring data supported the need for the gathering of horses from the Kiger and Riddle areas, which was done in September. The studies also indicated excess horses exist in the Warm Springs HMA, and that further population increases in Palomino Buttes will necessitate gathering.

1994 Plans

Andrews Resource Area

The gathering of 181 horses in the South Steens HMA and adjacent outside areas is still planned for fiscal year 1994. Subsequent monitoring of utilization in riparian areas and an anticipated decision by the Interior Board of Land Appeals on the pending appeal by the Audubon Society will determine if, where, and how many horses will eventually be gathered. Gathering is tentatively scheduled for late summer or early fall.

Three Rivers Resource Area

Revision of the Riddle and Kiger HMA plans and the development of the Kiger Mustang ACEC management plan are scheduled. Plans are to remove 110 horses from the Warm Springs HMA and 35 horses from the Palomino Buttes HMA.

Bear Valley U.S. Forest Service Ranger District

The Bear Valley Ranger District will gather approximately 60 wild horses from Murderers Creek Wild Horse Territory. These horses will be transported to the Burns District Wild Horse Corrals where they will be processed, given veterinary care, fed, and adopted to private individuals.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Andrews Resource Area

A Working Group was formed in September 1993, to write a vegetation management plan for the Steens Mountain ecosystem. Members of the group include BLM resource specialists, personnel from the Eastern Oregon Agriculture Research Center, ODFW, environmental groups, and local ranching interests. The goal of the group is to develop plans for improving and/or maintaining native plant communities to provide watershed protection and ensure integrity of natural ecosystems.

A significant increase in understory plant species occurred on 180 acres of juniper cut in 1991, partially as a result of the abundant precipitation received in 1993. Two hundred acres of juniper and big sagebrush were burned by BLM in September 1993, in the area around Sagehen Reservoir, in order to kill encroaching juniper and reduce competition on browse and herbaceous forage plants important to deer and livestock. Another 120 acres of juniper in the McCoy Creek area were cut with chain saws to release aspen being crowded out by the juniper. Reducing the juniper will also reduce competition with meadow vegetation and increase water yield in springs.

Three Rivers Resource Area

In the past 2 years, western juniper trees less than 24 inches in diameter, measured at 1-foot above the ground, have been cut on small areas totaling 1,000 acres. Understory plants have responded well to the release from competition with the woodland trees. Bitterbrush plants, important as forage for mule deer, have made as much as 12 inches of growth on treated sites. Bitterbrush plants, on adjacent untreated sites, have made two-thirds this much growth. Understory plants in the cut areas were protected from grazing by the trees left laying on the ground.

A total of 700 acres of invading juniper woodland was burned over the past 3 years. A high percentage of small trees were killed by fire, but many of the large trees survived. After the burns, vigor of understory plants improved during the growing season, however, forage plants were impacted by heavy use from grazing animals.

CHALLENGE COST-SHARE PROGRAMS

The Challenge Cost-Share Program is a cost-sharing agreement where an individual or organization and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) jointly contribute money, materials, or in-kind services toward completion of specific projects benefiting fish, wildlife, botanical resources, and recreation. This year the Burns District emphasized the use of Challenge Cost-Share agreements to complete several high priority projects. The District would like to recognize the assistance and cooperation of the following organizations and agencies in furthering 1993 resource management goals.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) provided \$5,000 to plant mountain mahogany seedlings and place protective coverings over each plant in the Pine Springs Basin burn area. Burned mahogany skeletons were placed over the seedlings to keep browsing animals from reaching the young plants. The planted seedlings will augment naturally-occurring regeneration.

ODFW provided \$2,500 and Ducks Unlimited contributed \$3,000 toward completion of the Grassy Butte Wetland project. The project consisted of building islands in a natural playa lake, constructing 1.5 miles of protective fence around the lake, and installing 0.5-mile of pipeline to provide supplemental water during the dry season.

The Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center has contributed time to study effects of cattle grazing on bitterbrush seedlings. The Nature Conservancy contributed \$9,000 to complete the third year of a 3-year study of the distribution and life history of the Borax Lake chub. This research conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and private researchers will provide a greater understanding of presently unknown habitat requirements of this endangered species of fish.

The BLM, U.S. Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station, Blue Mountain Natural Resources Institute, Environmental Protection Agency, and Alvord Ranch cooperated in a test of an electronic ear tag to control the movements of cattle on public rangelands. An electronic device attached to an ear tag contains a receiver which picks up signals from transmitters placed in a line to create an electronic barrier. As the animal wearing the ear tag approaches the line of transmitters a buzzing sound is first emitted as a warning. If the animal continues to walk toward the transmitters a mild shock is delivered to the ear causing the animal to turn away. This technology has the potential of protecting riparian areas, new seedlings, and creating pastures without the need for expensive fences which also impact the environment.

THE BURNS DISTRICT VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

During 1993, volunteers donated in excess of 3,000 hours of service to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District which were valued at approximately \$25,000. These projects covered a diversity of interests ranging from rehabilitation of hiking trails to assisting with administrative duties in the Burns District Office. The Oregon Chapter of the Sierra Club, Wilderness Committee, contributed 110 hours to remove an unneeded fence and maintain other fences. Young people with the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps worked in the District for 5 weeks, contributing 840 hours, and completing 11 projects. They eradicated weeds on 10 acres, repaired and constructed several enclosure fences, cleaned up trash on several areas, as well as other projects.

Some of the other volunteer activities during fiscal year 1993 were:

The National Sierra Club donated approximately 160 hours to maintain historical buildings on the Riddle Brothers Ranch by treating wood siding with linseed oil.

The campground host at Page Springs Campground did an outstanding job of welcoming visitors and providing information on recreation opportunities in the area. The host also kept the campground clean and watered trees.

One person associated with a college intern program redeveloped an old nature trail at the Page Springs Campground and designed an interpretive brochure for use on the Rocky Rim Nature Trail.

One individual contributed 90 hours to conduct tours at the Riddle Brothers Ranch and staff the Frenchglen visitor booth part-time.

A Native American individual contributed 520 hours assisting with warehousing duties and two Native American high school students contributed 360 hours each, one in the clerical area and another in field-related duties. The Organization of Forgotten Americans sponsored each of these people.

Two people contributed 20 hours to clean up trash left by spectators at the Steens Rim Run.

Over 200 hours were contributed by two individuals to edit, correct and digitize Ecological Site Inventory data themes.

An individual contributed approximately 3 weeks assisting wildlife biologists to mark boundaries for a juniper cutting area.

Eighty hours were contributed by an individual to a project compiling important resource data.

One individual contributed 70 hours in design and marking of juniper cutting units, collecting monitoring data, and fence maintenance.

One individual contributed 520 hours irrigating and doing building, fence, and campground maintenance.

Many volunteer opportunities are available each year in the Burns District. Some of the projects available are listed following this section. For more information, please contact Ruth Whitecotton at (503) 573-5241.



CURRENTLY AVAILABLE VOLUNTEER PROJECTS

Project Title: Nesting Ferruginous Hawk Inventory

Location: Three Rivers Resource Area

Description: Conduct inventory for nesting ferruginous hawks in the juniper zone throughout the Resource Area. Volunteers will need to provide a vehicle, binoculars, good hiking boots and personal gear. Mileage will be paid for use of the private vehicle during work and, if needed, a camp space will be provided at a local trailer park.

Skills: Ability to identify raptor species, drive a vehicle over rough back country roads, and use binoculars. Volunteer should be able to use topographic maps and hike moderate distances in rough terrain.

No. of Positions: 1-2

Time Period: Mid-May to Mid-June

Contact: Fred Taylor

Project Title: Pine Springs and Skull Creek Burns Reforestation

Location: Numerous locations, generally 10 to 100 acres of scattered forestland that were damaged in the August 1990 Pine Springs Basin and August 1991 Skull Creek Fires.

Description: Volunteer work will involve hand planting of ponderosa pine seedlings. Volunteers will use hand shovels or hoedads to dig a small depression, insert a seedling, and compact the depression. The work sites will be on variable terrain ranging from flat to fairly steep. Tools and transportation to planting sites will be provided.

Skills: No special skills required - reasonably good physical condition desirable.

No. of Positions: 10 - 20

Time period: Late March to late April (2 days)

Contact: Jon Reponen

Project Title: Fish Lake Campground Host

Location: Fish Lake Campground, 15 miles from Frenchglen, 75 miles south of Burns

Description: Serve as campground host at a BLM recreation site. The primary function is to assist in providing an enjoyable recreational camping experience for other campers. Welcome other campers and provide information about the area and inform visitors of site rules and regulations. Notify BLM recreation personnel of maintenance needs of campground facilities. Restock rest room supplies on a routine basis. Perform daily litter patrol to maintain appearance of site. Maintain a daily log of number of visitors and vehicles. Act as an observer and inform BLM personnel or County Sheriff's Office of any infractions, emergency needs, and other circumstances requiring BLM or Sheriff's action. The BLM provides an electric generator and \$8 per day for subsistence.

Skills: Since the campground does not have electricity or telephone service, the volunteer(s) should possess the necessary facilities to allow themselves to maintain a comfortable living style in a primitive setting. Volunteer(s) should enjoy the outdoors and working with other campers. The closest medical clinic is located at Burns, 75 miles to the north.

No. of Positions: 2 adults

Time Period: July 1, 1994 to October 1, 1994

Contact: Fred McDonald

Project Title: Page Springs Campground Host

Location: Page Springs Campground, 2 miles from Frenchglen, 60 miles south of Burns

Description: Serve as campground host at a BLM recreation site. The primary function is to assist in providing an enjoyable recreational camping experience for other campers. Welcome other campers and provide information about the area and inform visitors of site rules and regulations. Notify BLM recreation personnel of maintenance needs of campground facilities. Restock rest room supplies on a routine basis. Perform daily litter patrol to maintain appearance of site. Maintain a daily log of number of visitors and vehicles. Act as an observer and inform BLM personnel or County Sheriff's Office of any infractions, emergency needs, and other circumstances requiring BLM or Sheriff's action. Assist at the visitors center in Frenchglen as necessary. The BLM provides electricity and \$8 per day for subsistence.

Skills: The volunteer(s) should possess the necessary facilities to allow themselves to maintain a comfortable living style in a primitive setting. Electricity is available. Volunteer(s) should enjoy the outdoors and working with other campers. The closest medical clinic is located at Burns, 60 miles to the north.

No. of Positions: 2 adults

Time Period: May 1, 1994 to October 1, 1994

Contact: Fred McDonald

Project Title: Weed Eradication

Locations: Various locations in the Fields, Frenchglen, Riley and Drewsey areas. Spots or patches are from 0.1 acre to 0.25 acre in size.

Description: Volunteers will remove noxious weeds by hand, using hoes or pulaskies. Work will be done at a variety of sites and on terrain ranging from flat to fairly steep. The projects will be supervised by BLM personnel. Tools and transportation to the sites will be provided.

Skills: Ability to learn to identify species of weeds and how to use a hoe or pulaski.

No. of People: 2-10

Time Period: From June 1 through July 15

Contact: Rick Hall or Lesley Richman

Project Title: Visitor Services (Recreation/Wilderness)

Location: Frenchglen, Oregon, at the base of Steens Mountain, approximately 60 miles south of Burns along State Highway 205.

Description: Deal with people and provide them information in a visitor information station. This would include dealing with wilderness issues and recreation opportunities throughout the region. No housing is available; however, parking for a tent, trailer, camper or motor home is available at one of three BLM campgrounds in the area and the normal fee will be waived.

Skills: Ability to communicate and get along well with people. Ability to explain to others about District recreation opportunities along with describing rules and regulations.

Benefits: Training will be provided

No. of Positions: 1 or 2 people preferred

Time Period: A summertime activity only.

Contact: Fred McDonald

Project Title: Volunteer Assistant - Wilderness

Location: Burns District Office, Burns, Oregon

Description: Wilderness office work. This includes tabulating figures, extensive map drawing and tracing, along with an assortment of many small chores. Housing is not available.

Skills: Ability to learn how to operate a copy machine, to draw or learn to draw, trace, and paste maps. Computer skills/abilities are desirable and organization skills would be helpful.

No. of Positions: Several individual(s), one at a time for a week or two each.

Time period: Mostly a wintertime activity. Schedule and hours contributed are at the discretion of the volunteer.

Contact: Scott Moore

Project Title: Little Blitzen River Streambank Stabilization

Location: Riddle Brothers Ranch area

Description: Attach or anchor previously cut juniper trees along the banks of an eroded stream to create a revetment to protect streambanks from the forces of erosion.

Skills: Need to be in good physical condition. Volunteers will camp out near the project site.

No. of Positions: 5 or more (A good Boy or Girl Scout project).
Time Period: A 2-day project sometime between July 1 and November 1
Contact: Guy Sheeter
Project Title: White Fir Study Fence Construction
Location: Krumbo Ridge
Description: Construct a fence to create a 4-acre enclosure around a small grove of (*Abies concolor*) white fir trees. Enclosure would protect and facilitate study of the effects of protection from grazing on reproduction and growth of trees. Tools, transportation, and supervision provided by BLM.

Skills: Ability to work with hand tools, involves lifting and walking.

No. of Positions: 3 or 4
Time Period: May and June 1994
Contact: Dave Ward

Project Title: Comparison Plot Fence Repair (three plots)
Location: Krumbo Seeding, Ruby Springs Seeding
Description: Replace fence corners and repair fence on three existing comparison plots (enclosures). Tools, transportation and supervision provided by BLM.
Skills: Manual labor, heavy lifting, work with hand tools.

No. of Positions: 2
Time Period: April through June 1994
Contact: Dave Ward

Project Title: Diamond Loop Back Country Byway Kiosk Fabrication/Fence Building/Sign Installations

Location: Diamond Loop Back Country Byway Route at three locations: (1) near Princeton, 45 miles southeast of Burns; (2) Diamond Valley, 55 miles southeast of Burns; and (3) Junction of Highway 205 and Diamond Lane, 40 miles south of Burns.

Description: Construct prefabricated kiosks at three pull-out locations, build perimeter fences around pull-outs and install informational/directional signs within the pull-out areas. This project can be broken into three separate projects with different groups completing each one. Tools, equipment, and supervision will be provided.

Skills: Some carpentry skills would be helpful, but not a prerequisite. Reasonably good physical condition is desirable.

No. of Positions: 8-15 (A good service club project).

Time Period: June through September (Approximately 3 days at each site).

Contact: Dave Vickstrom

Project Title: Radar Hill Clean Up

Location: Near Radar Hill outside of Burns/Hines

Description: Clean up of trash along trails used by off-highway vehicle enthusiasts. Since the area is close to Burns, it is an area where indiscriminate dumping of tree limbs, grass clippings, and other trash has taken place on public lands. BLM will provide the equipment to complete the project.

Skills: No specific skills are required. Good physical condition desirable.

No. of Positions: 6-15

Time Period: A 1-day project sometime during June through September

Contact: Dave Vickstrom

Project Title: Diamond Craters Trash Clean Up

Location: Diamond Craters, approximately 55 miles southeast of Burns.

Description: Clean up of an old abandoned dump site. The dump was previously covered with dirt, but material that was never covered or has become uncovered by erosion, is scattered over the area. BLM will provide equipment to complete the project.

Skills: No specific skills are required. Volunteers need to be in good physical condition.

No. of Positions: 5-10

Time Period: A 1-day project sometime during May through September

Contact: Dave Vickstrom

Project Title: Sagehen Hill Nature Trail Sign Maintenance

Location: Sagehen Hill Rest Area, 18 miles west of Burns.

Description: Remove hand-carved trailhead sign, repaint and varnish, glue sections together, and replace sign on 4" x 4" posts.

Skills: Ability to use hand and power tools.

No. of Positions: 1-2 (A possible Boy or Girl Scout project).

Time Period: Approximately 1-week of work during April through June (the sign can be taken from the site for repair work).

Contact: Dave Vickstrom

THREE RIVERS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

CORRECTIONS:

Page 2-111 For R 2.1: Under "Procedures To Implement" delete USFWS, and add USFS and ODFW

Page 2-115 For R 2.2: Under Procedures To Implement delete USFWS and add Bureau of Reclamation

Page 2-155 Decision "R 2.7" is changed to "CR 2.7".

Page Appendices 46: Appendix 9

For Beaver Creek Allotment the "Exchange of Use" animal unit month figure is changed from 970 to 812.

Page Appendices 91: Appendix 9

For Mountain Allotment:

- Under the heading, **Identified Resource Conflicts/Concerns**, delete "The Biscuitroot Cultural Area of Critical Environmental Concern occurs with allotment."
- Under the heading, **Management Objectives**, delete "Adjust allotment management including levels and areas of authorized use, seasons of use and grazing system as required by ACEC Management Plan."

Page Appendices 195: Appendix 16

- For South Narrows ACEC under the column titled "Fire Suppression Activities" change from prohibited (P) to restricted (R).
- For Diamond Craters ONA/ACEC under the column titled "Fire Suppression Activities" change from prohibited (P) to restricted (R).
- For Foster Flat RNA/ACEC under the column titled "Fire Suppression" change from prohibited (P) to restricted (R).
- For Kiger Mustang ACEC under the column titled "Land Tenure Adjustment" add Z2 to the column. Also under the column titled "ORV Use" change from open to use or activity (O) to limited to existing roads and trails (L).
- For Biscuitroot Cultural ACEC under the column titled "Fire Suppression Activities" change from prohibited (P) to restricted (R).

Page Appendices 205: Appendix 21

The definitions of "Speedy Riparian Recovery" and "Average Actual Use" were inadvertently left out of the Glossary of Terms and Acronyms. The following definitions are added to this Appendix:

"Speedy Riparian Recovery" - Improvement of one condition class within 5 years for areas in poor condition or within 10 years for areas in fair condition.

"Average Actual Use" - As presented in Appendix 9, this figure includes grazing use (AUMs) by livestock, and includes use by wild horses in some (but not all) of the allotments containing wild horses. Livestock use was calculated from actual use reports submitted by permittees or from licensed use. The wild horse use was based on census information. The figure does not include any estimate of use by wildlife.

RIPARIAN INVENTORY UPDATE:

Appendices 3, 5, and 7 are modified and supplemented as follows to incorporate the results of riparian inventories conducted in 1991 and 1993.

Page Appendices 19-Appendix 7: This table is amended by deleting all streams listed except Yellowjacket Creek, Cow Creek, and Dog Creek. The deleted streams are added to either Appendix 3 or 5.

Page Appendices 11-Appendix 3: Appendix 3 is supplemented by the addition of the following streams and the respective data for each.

Appendix 3. Stream Segments Proposed for Livestock Removal¹

Stream Name	Allot.	Miles	Acres	Cond.	Trend	Allot. No.	Special Status Species
Mahon Creek	Mahon Creek	1.50	6.0	Poor	Down	5534	
Warm Sprgs.Cr.	Mill Gulch	1.25	5.0	Poor	Static	5525	
Prather Creek	Prather Creek	1.50	5.0	Poor	Down	5102	
	Devine Ridge	2.25	7.0	Poor	Static	5101	

¹This table pertains to Management Actions WL 6.1, SSS 2.1 (Table 2.12), WQ 1.4 and AH 1.2.

Page Appendices 15 & 16-Appendix 5: Appendix 5 is supplemented by the addition of the following streams and the respective data for each.

Appendix 5. Stream Segments Proposed for Immediate Grazing System Implementation*

Stream Name	Allot.	Miles	Acres	Cond.	Trend	Allot. No.	Special Status Species
Skull Creek	Hotchkiss	0.50	2.0	Good	Up	7032	RB
Emigrant Creek	Hay Creek	1.00	4.0	Good	Up	7031	RB
	Sawtooth (MNF)	0.20	1.0	Good	Up	7051	RB
Spring Creek	Spring Creek	0.50	3.0	Good	Static	7029	RB
Ltl Muddy Cr.	Ltl Muddy Cr.	1.50	6.0	Good	Up	5505	----
Mule Creek	Mule Creek	1.25	8.0	Good	Up	5515	----
Riddle Creek	Unallotted	0.50	2.0	Fair	Up	----	RB/MS
	Dry Lake	0.75	2.0	Good	Static	5303	RB/MS
Newell Creek	Lamb Ranch FFR	1.25	6.0	Fair	Static	5571	----
Mill Creek	Camp Harney	2.50	10.0	Fair	Up	5105	----
Crane Creek	Alder Creek	2.50	10.0	Fair	Static	5536	RB
	Alder Creek	2.50	10.0	Poor	Static	5536	RB
East Creek	East Creek-Pine Hill	0.75	3.0	Fair	Up	4098	----
Swamp Creek	Kiger	0.50	2.0	Good	Static	5308	RB/MS
	Smyth Creek	1.50	5.0	Good	Static	5307	RB/MS

*This appendix pertains to Management Actions WL 6.2, SS 2.1 (Table 2.12), WQ 1.5 and AH 1.3. RB indicates Redband Trout, MS-Malheur Mottled Sculpin

CHANGES TO GRAZING ALLOTMENTS:

The boundaries of several grazing allotments have been changed. Due to these changes the information presented in Appendix 9: **Allotment Management Summaries** is supplemented and corrected as follows.

Page Appendices 47: Appendix 9

The Davies Allotment (No. 5215) has been eliminated, and was split into two new allotments, West Davies (No. 5221) and East Davies (No. 5223). The summary for Davies Allotment is deleted and the following summaries for East Davies and West Davies are added.

Allotment Name: West Davies	Allotment No.: 5221	Mgmt. Category: I
Public Acres: 1,213	Private Acres:	
Grazing Administration Info. (AUMs)	Other Forage Demands (AUMs)	
Active Preference: 143	Deer:	1
Suspended Nonuse: 0	Elk:	0
Total Preference: 143	Antelope:	1
Exchange of Use: 108	Horses:	0
Average Actual Use:	Total:	2
Identified Resource Conflicts/Concerns	Management Objectives	
Current range condition, level or pattern of utilization may be unacceptable, or carrying capacity (under current management practices) may be exceeded.	Maintain or improve rangeland condition and productivity through a change in management practices and/or reduction in active use. (Note: Upon completion of the Ecological Site Inventory on the Three Rivers RA, ecological status objectives will be developed.)	

CONSTRAINTS

Ensure that substantial vegetation conversions (burning, spraying, chaining, seeding, etc.) do not reduce the variety of plant species or communities in abundances necessary for their continued existence and normal functioning.

Deer winter range occurs in allotment. Vegetation conversions must be limited to less than 400 acres in size. Maintain browse on at least 85 percent of the winter range currently supporting browse.

Allotment Name: East Davies

Allotment No.: 5223

Mgmt. Category: I

Public Acres: 2,040

Private Acres:

Grazing Administration Info. (AUMs)

Other Forage Demands (AUMs)

Active Preference: 110

Deer: 1

Suspended Nonuse: 0

Elk: 0

Total Preference: 110

Antelope: 2

Exchange of Use: 104

Horses: 0

Average Actual Use:

Total: 3

Identified Resource
Conflicts/Concerns

Management
Objectives

Current range condition, level or pattern of utilization may be unacceptable, or carrying capacity (under current management practices) may be exceeded.

Maintain or improve rangeland condition and productivity through a change in management practices and/or reduction in active use. (Note: Upon completion of the Ecological Site Inventory on the Three Rivers RA, ecological status objectives will be developed.)

CONSTRAINTS

Ensure that substantial vegetation conversions (burning, spraying, chaining, seeding, etc.) do not reduce the variety of plant species or communities in abundances necessary for their continued existence and normal functioning.

Deer winter range occurs in allotment. Vegetation conversions must be limited to less than 400 acres in size. Maintain browse on at least 85 percent of the winter range currently supporting browse.

Page Appendices 71, 72 and 105: Appendix 9

Portions of the Little Muddy Creek (No. 5505) and J. Fran Miller Allotments (No. 5554) have been split off to create two new allotments, School House (No. 5575) and Lower Pine (No. 5576). The following summary for Little Muddy Creek will replace the summary on page appendices 71 and 72, the following summary for J. Fran Miller will replace the summary on page appendices 105, and the summaries for School House and Lower Pine are added to Appendix 9.

Allotment Name: Little Muddy Creek Allotment No.: 5505

Mgmt. Category: M

Public Acres: 1,796

Private Acres:

Grazing Administration Info. (AUMs)

Other Forage Demands (AUMs)

Active Preference: 286

Deer: 21

Suspended Nonuse: 77

Elk: 20

Total Preference: 363

Antelope: 0

Exchange of Use: 0

Horses: 0

Average Actual Use: 159

Total: 41

Identified Resource
Conflicts/Concerns

Management
Objectives

No forage allocations for elk use in the allotment have been made.

Allocate forage to meet elk forage demands.

At this time, the following Special Status species or its habitat is known to exist within the allotment: sage grouse

Protect Special Status species or its habitat from impact by BLM-authorized actions.

CONSTRAINTS

Area influencing perennial water occurs within the allotment. Limit treatment of this area by mechanical or prescribed fire means to less than 20 percent of area in any one year.

Ensure that substantial vegetation conversions (burning, spraying, chaining, seeding, etc.) do not reduce the variety of plant species or communities in abundances necessary for their continued existence and normal functioning.

Allotment Name: J.Fran. Miller FFR Allotment No.: 5554

Mgmt. Category: C

Public Acres:

Private Acres:

Grazing Administration Info. (AUMs)

Other Forage Demands (AUMs)

Active Preference: 15

Deer: 0

Suspended Nonuse: 0

Elk: 0

Total Preference: 15

Antelope: 0

Exchange of Use: 0

Horses: 0

Average Actual Use: 15

Total: 0

Identified Resource
Conflicts/Concerns

Management Objectives

CONSTRAINTS

Ensure that substantial vegetation conversions (burning, spraying, chaining, seeding, etc.) do not reduce the variety of plant species or communities in abundance necessary for their continued existence and normal functioning.

Allotment Name: Schoolhouse	Allotment No.: 5575	Mgmt. Category: M
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Public Acres: 2,288	Private Acres:
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Grazing Administration Info. (AUMs)	Other Forage Demands (AUMs)
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Active Preference:	303
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Deer:	30
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Suspended Nonuse:	82
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Elk:	20
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Total Preference:	385
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Antelope:	0
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Exchange of Use:	10
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Horses:	0
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Average Actual Use:	180
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Total:	50
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Identified Resource Conflicts/Concerns	Management Objectives
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Water quality does not currently meet DEQ water quality standards for beneficial uses.

Improve surface water quality on public lands to meet or exceed quality standards for all beneficial uses as established by the DEQ, where BLM-authorized actions are having a negative effect on water quality.

No forage allocations for elk use in the allotment have been made.

Allocate forage to meet elk forage demands.

Riparian or aquatic habitat is in less than good habitat condition.

Improve and maintain riparian or aquatic habitat in good or better habitat condition.

At this time, the following Special Status species or its habitat is known to exist within the allotment: sage grouse

Protect Special Status species or its habitat from impact by BLM-authorized actions.

CONSTRAINTS

Area influencing perennial water occurs within the allotment. Limit treatment of this area by mechanical or prescribed fire means to less than 20 percent of area in any one year.

Ensure that substantial vegetation conversions (burning, spraying, chaining, seeding, etc.) do not reduce the variety of plant species or communities in abundances necessary for their continued existence and normal functioning.

Allotment Name: Lower Pine

Allotment No.: 5576

Mgmt. Category: M

Public Acres: 3,177

Private Acres:

Grazing Administration Info. (AUMs)

Other Forage Demands (AUMs)

Active Preference: 383

Deer: 37

Suspended Nonuse: 103

Elk: 0

Total Preference: 486

Antelope: 0

Exchange of Use: 77

Horses: 0

Average Actual Use: 209

Total: 37

Identified Resource
Conflicts/Concerns

Management
Objectives

At this time, the following Special Status species or its habitat is known to exist within the allotment: sage grouse

Protect Special Status species or its habitat from impact by BLM-authorized actions.

CONSTRAINTS

Area influencing perennial water occurs within the allotment. Limit treatment of this area by mechanical or prescribed fire means to less than 20 percent of area in any one year.

Ensure that substantial vegetation conversions (burning, spraying, chaining, seeding, etc.) do not reduce the variety of plant species or communities in abundances necessary for their continued existence and normal functioning.

Page Appendices 119: Appendix 9

A portion of the East Wagonire Allotment (No. 7003) was split off to create the new Capehart Lake Allotment (No. 7062). Additionally, grazing preference in East Wagonire is reduced by 109 Aums and Exchange of Use by 40 AUMs due to a land exchange between the BLM and the State of Oregon. The following modified summary for East Wagonire replaces the summary on page appendices 119, and the new summary for Capehart Lake is added to Appendix 9.

Allotment Name: East Wagonire Allotment No.: 7003 Mgmt. Category: I

Public Acres: 81,139

Private Acres:

Grazing Administration Info. (AUMs)

Other Forage Demands (AUMs)

Active Preference: 6,672

Deer: 86

Suspended Nonuse: 0

Elk: 0

Total Preference: 6,672

Antelope: 5

Exchange of Use: 448

Horses: 0

Average Actual Use:

Total: 91

Identified Resource
Conflicts/Concerns

Management
Objectives

Limiting big game habitat in unsatisfactory
habitat condition.

Improve and maintain big game habitat in
satisfactory habitat condition.

Playa habitat occurs in the allotment.

Incorporate playa management objectives into
allotment management as such objectives are
developed.

At this time, the following Special Status
species or its habitat is known to exist within
the allotment: sage grouse

Protect Special Status species or its habitat
from impact by BLM-authorized actions.

Current range condition, level or pattern of
utilization may be unacceptable, or carrying
capacity (under current management practices)
may be exceeded.

Maintain or improve rangeland condition and
productivity through a change in management
practices and/or reduction in active use.
(Note: Upon completion of the Ecological Site
Inventory on the Three Rivers RA, ecological
status objectives will be developed.)

CONSTRAINTS

Ensure that substantial vegetation conversions (burning, spraying, chaining, seeding, etc.) do not
reduce the variety of plant species or communities in abundances necessary for their continued
existence and normal functioning.

Allotment Name: Capehart Lake

Allotment No.: 7062

Mgmt. Category: I

Public Acres: 37,093

Private Acres:

Grazing Administration Info. (AUMs)

Other Forage Demands (AUMs)

Active Preference: 1,500

Deer: 0

Suspended Nonuse: 0

Elk: 0

Total Preference: 1,500

Antelope: 2

Exchange of Use: 30

Horses: 0

Average Actual Use:

Total: 2

Identified Resource
Conflicts/Concerns

Management
Objectives

Playa habitat occurs in the allotment.

Incorporate playa management objectives into allotment management as such objectives are developed.

At this time, the following Special Status species or its habitat is known to exist within the allotment: sage grouse

Protect Special Status species or its habitat from impact by BLM-authorized actions.

Current range condition, level or pattern of utilization may be unacceptable, or carrying capacity (under current management practices) may be exceeded.

Maintain or improve rangeland condition and productivity through a change in management practices and/or reduction in active use.
(Note: Upon completion of the Ecological Site Inventory on the Three Rivers RA, ecological status objectives will be developed.)

CONSTRAINTS

Ensure that substantial vegetation conversions (burning, spraying, chaining, seeding, etc.) do not reduce the variety of plant species or communities in abundances necessary for their continued existence and normal functioning.

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A portion of the West Wagontire Allotment (No. 7004) was split off to create a new allotment called Round Top Butte (No. 7063). The Glass Butte Allotment (No. 7005) was eliminated and also added to the newly created Round Top Butte. The following summary will replace the West Wagontire summary, and the new summary for Round Top Butte is added to Appendix 9.

Allotment Name: West Wagontire Allotment No.: 7004 Mgmt. Category: I

Public Acres: 41,759

Private Acres:

Grazing Administration Info. (AUMs)

Other Forage Demands (AUMs)

Active Preference: 4,959

Deer: 25

Suspended Nonuse: 0

Elk: 0

Total Preference: 4,959

Antelope: 6

Exchange of Use: 0

Horses: 0

Average Actual Use:

Total: 31

Identified Resource Conflicts/Concerns

Management Objectives

Limiting big game habitat in unsatisfactory habitat condition.

Improve and maintain big game habitat in satisfactory habitat condition.

Playa habitat occurs on the allotment.

Incorporate playa management objectives into allotment management as such objectives are developed.

At this time, the following Special Status species or its habitat is known to exist within the allotment: sage grouse

Protect Special Status species or its habitat from impact by BLM-authorized actions.

Current range condition, level or pattern of utilization may be unacceptable, or carrying capacity (under current management practices) may be exceeded.

Maintain or improve rangeland condition and productivity through a change in management practices and/or reduction in active use. (Note: Upon completion of the Ecological Site Inventory on the Three Rivers RA, ecological status objectives will be developed.)

CONSTRAINTS

Ensure that substantial vegetation conversions (burning, spraying, chaining, seeding, etc.) do not reduce the variety of plant species or communities in abundances necessary for their continued existence and normal functioning.

Allotment Name: Round Top Butte

Allotment No.: 7063

Mgmt. Category: I

Public Acres: 33,272

Private Acres:

Grazing Administration Info. (AUMs)

Other Forage Demands (AUMs)

Active Preference: 3,592

Deer: 60

Suspended Nonuse: 0

Elk: 0

Total Preference: 3,592

Antelope: 8

Exchange of Use: 84

Horses: 0

Average Actual Use:

Total: 68

Identified Resource
Conflicts/Concerns

Management
Objectives

Limiting big game habitat in unsatisfactory habitat condition.

Improve and maintain big game habitat in satisfactory habitat condition.

Playa habitat occurs in the allotment.

Incorporate playa management objectives into allotment management as such objectives are developed.

At this time, the following Special Status species or its habitat is known to exist within the allotment: sage grouse

Protect Special Status species or its habitat from impact by BLM-authorized actions.

Current range condition, level or pattern of utilization may be unacceptable, or carrying capacity (under current management practices) may be exceeded.

Maintain or improve rangeland condition and productivity through a change in management practices and/or reduction in active use. (Note: Upon completion of the Ecological Site Inventory on the Three Rivers RA, ecological status objectives will be developed.)

Substantial surface acreage within allotment affected by mineral development activities.

Adjust allotment capacities and management system, as needed, to address minerals development impacts.

CONSTRAINTS

Deer winter range occurs in allotment. Vegetation conversions must be limited to less than 400 acres in size. Maintain browse on at least 85 percent of the winter range currently supporting browse.

Ensure that substantial vegetation conversions (burning, spraying, chaining, seeding, etc.) do not reduce the variety of plant species or communities in abundances necessary for their continued existence and normal functioning.

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The Glass Butte Allotment (No. 7005) was eliminated when it was added to the Round Top Butte Allotment (No. 7063). The Glass Butte Allotment summary on page appendices 121 is deleted from Appendix 9.



ANDREWS RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY UPDATE

Affected Interests

If you believe any of the future actions indicated in the Range Program Summary update may affect your interests, please contact the Area Manager in writing. Please state which of the specific future actions are of concern to you, the allotment or allotments involved and your reason for believing you have an interest which could be affected by the proposed future actions. The Area Manager will provide those determined to be an affected interest with an opportunity to participate in the development of livestock grazing management plans in the identified allotments.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
6002	South Steens	I	<p>Six reservoirs were maintained to provide water for livestock and wildlife. Livestock will be able to utilize upland areas and take some pressure off riparian areas.</p> <p>The wild horse gathering planned for 1993 has not occurred pending action on an appeal by the Audubon Society of Portland. Riparian values on the Donner und Blitzen National Wild and Scenic River, Home Creek, and Three Mile Creek continue to be at risk.</p> <p>The Allotment Management Plan (AMP) Working Group has developed management objectives and an intensive monitoring plan. Following an Environmental Assessment (EA) of proposed actions, a draft management plan will be prepared. The plan is expected to be ready for public review in 1994.</p>
6003	Fish Creek-Big Indian	I	<p>Sixteen reservoirs were maintained to provide water for livestock and wildlife. Livestock will be able to utilize upland areas and take some pressure off riparian areas.</p> <p>An allotment management evaluation will be prepared in 1994. It will assess if current management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include range condition, riparian condition, wildlife habitat, fishery, wild and scenic river and wilderness values.</p>

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
6005	Mud Creek	I	An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 1993. It indicated the existing grazing system is adequate for meeting upland objectives. Stocking rates may be somewhat higher than carrying capacity. It also indicated water quality and biotic condition index studies need to be established on Bridge Creek. Management actions needed to correct grazing are under consideration.
6006	Frazier Field	I	<p>Two acres of medusahead were prescribed burned to control this noxious weed. Burning was completed prior to seed release in an effort to control spread of this species to adjacent areas.</p> <p>An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will assess if current management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include range condition, riparian condition, wildlife habitat, wild horses, Special Status fish species and wilderness values.</p>
6007	Ruby Spring	I	Juniper were controlled by cutting with chain saws on 215 acres in 1993 in fields 4 and 5. Juniper will be cut in 1994 on 149 acres in field 5 and 122 acres in field 6. One mile of fence will be built around a meadow in field 6.
6010	East Ridge	I	<p>Two miles of pipeline were constructed and troughs placed to improve livestock distribution and provide alternate water sources away from Cucamonga Creek in an adjoining allotment. This project will also benefit antelope and deer.</p> <p>A 500-acre prescribed burn was completed in a predominantly juniper and sagebrush area to control the spread of juniper and release native grasses. This project will benefit wildlife and also enhance watershed values. Juniper will be cut on 350 acres in 1994.</p>
6015	Trout Creek Mountain	I	<p>Two springs were reconstructed and water for livestock and wildlife was piped out of meadow areas. The meadows are now fenced and should recover quickly.</p> <p>An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will assess if current management is meeting resource objectives and if the stocking rate is in balance with carrying capacity. Resource concerns include range condition, riparian condition, wildlife habitat, fishery and wilderness values.</p>

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
6018	Tule Springs	I	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will assess if current management is meeting resource objectives and if the stocking rate is in balance with carrying capacity. Resource concerns include range condition, wildlife habitat, bighorn sheep, wild horses and wilderness values.
6020	Pueblo-Lone Mountain	I	<p>Eighteen wild horses that had entered the allotment from adjacent Herd Management Areas (HMAs) were removed because they were outside an HMA and also causing resource damage at springs on Lone Mountain.</p> <p>The Working Group established last year has developed management objectives and strategies to be used in developing an AMP. A plan and EA will be ready for public review in 1994.</p>
6023	Hammond	I	<p>An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will assess if current management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include wildlife habitat, range condition, riparian condition, and wilderness values.</p> <p>An AMP will be prepared in 1994. A grazing system will be designed to meet resource objectives.</p>
6026	Mann Lake	I	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will assess if current management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include range condition, riparian condition, wildlife habitat, bighorn sheep, Lahontan cutthroat trout, Mann Lake recreation area and wilderness values.
6030	Reicken's Corner	M	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will assess if current management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include range condition and wildlife habitat.
6031	Lavoy Tables	M	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will assess if current management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include range condition, wildlife habitat, wild horses and wilderness values.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
6032	Krumbo Mountain	M	A 250-acre prescribed burn was completed this year, in a predominantly juniper and sagebrush site, to control the spread of juniper and release native grasses. The project will benefit wildlife as well as enhance watershed values. Juniper will be cut on 112 acres in 1994.
6033	Chimney	I	A 150-acre portion of Cucamonga seeding was maintained by reseeding to crested wheatgrass. This seeding is used to defer grazing on native grass dominated rangelands.
6034	West Slope	I	Juniper were cut on 110 acres in the fall of 1993.
6037	Bridge Creek	I	Juniper will be cut on 117 acres in 1994.

THREE RIVERS RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY UPDATE

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to outline the progress being made in implementing the Three Rivers RMP in the range program.

Affected Interests

If you believe any of the future actions indicated in the Range Program Summary update may affect your interests, please contact the Area Manager in writing. Please state which of the specific future actions are of concern to you, the allotment or allotments involved and your reason for believing you have an interest which could be affected by the proposed future actions. The Area Manager will provide those determined to be an affected interest with an opportunity to participate in the development of livestock grazing management plans in the identified allotments.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
4040	Poison Creek	C	This allotment is currently identified as a 'C' category allotment. The conflicts and concerns appear to indicate a category change may be needed. An interdisciplinary team will address this situation in 1994.
4097	Trout Creek	I	A spring was developed in 1993 to make clean, reliable water available for livestock and improve the condition of riparian vegetation along Lost Creek, by better grazing upland rangelands. Troughs will be replaced at two spring developments in order to return these projects to a usable condition for livestock and wildlife. Pending receipt of State permits, two reservoirs will be constructed to further improve livestock distribution and reduce pressure on riparian areas.
5101	Devine Ridge	M	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include Special Status species, big game habitat, water quality, riparian and aquatic habitat, and range condition. The trough at a spring development will be replaced in 1994 to restore the project to a functioning condition.

*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5102	Prather Creek	M	An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 1993. The results indicated the allotment was overstocked and grazing needed to be reduced. A change in the season of use was also needed. Stocking levels were reduced beginning in 1993, and grazing use will be limited to early May. Improvements expected include an upward trend in range condition, wildlife habitat condition, and riparian condition.
5105	Camp Harney	M	A spring was developed and fenced in 1993 to protect a small grove of aspen trees and a small riparian area. Approximately 2 miles of existing fence will be reconstructed in 1994 to ensure the integrity of the grazing system.
5201	Coleman Creek	M	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource conflicts and concerns include water quality, aquatic and riparian habitat, Special Status species, range condition, and big game habitat.
5207	Coyote Creek	M	An enclosure will be constructed at a spring development in 1994 to protect the overflow. This will bring the project into compliance with BLM standard design for spring developments.
5213	Beaver Creek	M	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource conflicts and concerns include Special Status species and wildlife habitat. The AMP will be revised in 1994. Approximately 1.5 miles of existing management fence will be reconstructed in 1994.
5214	Hamilton	I	The boundary was changed to reflect ownership changes caused by the State land exchange of 1985, and the permittee's purchase of private land in the allotment by the permittee. The Hamilton FFR Allotment (No. 5219) was combined with this allotment. A pasture, containing mostly private land and 2,317 acres of public land, was excluded and named the Cooper Field FFR Allotment (No. 5577).

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5215	Davies	I	An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 1993. Results show the carrying capacity is more than adequate to meet the forage demands for livestock and wildlife. The grazing system was found to be inadequate to meet resource objectives and changes in the permit. In response to the recommendations in the evaluation, this allotment was divided into two allotments and AMPs were prepared in 1993. The new allotments are the East Davies (No. 5223) and West Davies (No. 5521).
5219	Hamilton Fenced Federal Range (FFR)	C	This allotment is now part of the Hamilton Allotment (No. 5214) due to an administrative boundary change.
5221	West Davies	I	An AMP was prepared to reflect the change in allotment boundary which established this allotment (containing 1,213 acres of public land), to identify resource objectives, and to develop a grazing system. The resource objectives are to maintain the satisfactory range condition and maintain browse on the deer winter range. The grazing system will be a sequence of growing season, defer, early, fall/winter, and rest treatments. Key species and utilization target levels are identified for each pasture.
5223	East Davies	I	An AMP was prepared to reflect the change in allotment boundary which established this allotment (containing 2,040 acres of public land), to identify resource objectives, and to develop a grazing system. The resource objectives are to maintain the present satisfactory range condition. The grazing system will be a sequence of grazing during the growing season, deferment of grazing, early grazing, and rest treatments. Key species and utilization target levels were identified for each pasture.
5301	Princeton	M	A trough was replaced and a cattleguard was cleaned in 1993.
5302	Big Bird	M	The storage tank at the Big Bird Well was replaced in 1993.
5303	Dry Lake	M	A trough was replaced in 1993.
5305	Crow's Nest	M	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. The primary resource concern is Special Status species.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5307	Smyth Creek	I	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. The AMP will be revised in 1994. Resource conflicts and concerns include water quality; condition of big game, riparian, and aquatic habitats; playa habitat; ACEC; wild horses; Special Status species; and, range condition.
5308	Kiger	I	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. The AMP will be revised in 1994. Resource conflicts and concerns include wild horses, Special Status species, big game habitat, ACEC, and range condition.
5309	Happy Valley	M	A trough was replaced in 1993.
5310	Riddle Mountain	I	The AMP was revised in 1993. The need was to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation completed in 1992, and address conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. Objectives are to maintain good range condition; improve fair range condition; improve riparian habitat condition on Paul, Riddle, and Coyote Creeks; and, improve condition of unsatisfactory big game habitat. A grazing system has been developed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been identified for each pasture. Pending receipt of State permits, a reservoir will be constructed.
5316	Virginia Valley	M	A trough was replaced in 1993. Approximately 1-mile of existing boundary fence will be reconstructed in 1994 to resolve long-standing management problems.
5329	Riddle-Coyote	I	In 1993, 3.2 miles of riparian fence were constructed. Management will be coordinated with the Riddle Mountain Allotment (No. 5310) using a combined AMP prepared in 1993. Primary focus of management is to improve riparian habitat along 2.2 miles of Coyote Creek and 3.3 miles of Riddle Creek. This allotment will be used only from mid-May to mid-June on alternate years and rested in between.
5502	Rock Creek	M	In 1993, 1.8 miles of protection fence was constructed to protect areas burned by the 1992 Big Rock Creek Fire. This fence is to protect the area from grazing for two growing seasons.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5503	Pine Creek	I	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource conflicts and concerns include water quality; erosion; condition of big game, riparian, and aquatic habitats; Special Status species; ACEC; and, range condition.
5505	Little Muddy Creek	M	This allotment was divided into three smaller allotments in 1991: Little Muddy Creek (No. 5505), Schoolhouse (No. 5575), and Lower Pine (No. 5576). The Little Muddy Creek Allotment now contains 1,796 acres of public land. Approximately 1.6 miles of existing fence will be reconstructed in 1994.
5507	Wolf Creek	M	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. The primary resource concern is Special Status species.
5511	Moffet Table	I	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource conflicts and concerns include water quality; wild and scenic rivers; condition of big game, riparian, and aquatic habitats; Special Status species, range condition; and, wilderness values. The trough will be replaced at a spring development in 1994 to return the project to usable condition to provide reliable, clean water for livestock and wildlife.
5514	Coal Mine Creek	I	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource concerns include erosion, Special Status species, and range condition.
5516	Birch Creek	M	An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 1993. The stocking rate and carrying capacity are very closely balanced because the permittee has taken some voluntary nonuse. The evaluation showed a need to rewrite objectives to make them measurable and reflect resource concerns of range condition and big game habitat. Minor grazing system changes were recommended to improve the browse component of the rangeland.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5517	Otis Mountain	I	Two cattleguards will be cleaned out in 1994 to facilitate public access on the Drewsey-Prairie City road.
5522	Cottonwood Creek	M	The AMP will be revised in 1994 to incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and include a grazing system designed to resolve resource conflicts or concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. Concerns include water quality, condition of riparian and aquatic habitats, and Special Status species.
5525	Mill Gulch	M	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource conflicts and concerns include water quality, erosion, and mining activity.
5526	Chalk Hills	M	An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 1993. Carrying capacity figures are not reliable because of the past low level of livestock use, but indications are that forage production is adequate for all demands. The grazing system has not been followed and needs to be revised so multiple-use objectives can be met in all pastures. The permittee is currently running only 60 percent of preference and the grazing system does not lend itself to this small number of livestock. The AMP will be revised in 1994 to address recommendations of the 1993 evaluation. Resource conflicts and concerns include erosion, mining activity, and deer winter range. In 1994, approximately 0.1-mile of fence will be reconstructed on the boundary with the River Allotment.
5527	Riverside FFR	C	The grazing preference was increased during transfer of the grazing permit. This action reflects lands coming into public ownership by the 1985 State Exchange.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5530	River	I	An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 1993. It estimated forage production to be in excess of forage demand by livestock and wildlife. Most objectives are being met with the existing grazing system, although the evaluation indicated the system needs to be followed more closely in the Lake and Drinkwater Pastures. Riparian improvement continues to occur along the Middle Fork of the Malheur River. The AMP will be revised in 1994 to incorporate recommendations in the evaluation. In 1994, approximately 0.1-mile of existing allotment fence will be reconstructed on the boundary with the Chalk Hills Allotment.
5531	Stinkingwater	I	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource conflicts and concerns include water quality; Special Status species; condition of big game, riparian, and aquatic habitats; ACEC; and, wild horses. A well, important as a water source for three allotments, was redrilled in 1993.
5532	Mountain	I	An allotment management evaluation was prepared in 1993. The evaluation indicated that although the carrying capacity of the allotment is sufficient for the stocking rate of cattle, wild horses, and wildlife, distribution problems are causing a deterioration of riparian areas in the allotment. As a result, a riparian pasture has been established containing 3 miles of Warm Springs Creek which will be rested for 5 years, beginning in 1993. Eleven miles of fence will be constructed in the spring and summer of 1994 which will initiate a riparian pasture for Stinkingwater Creek including 5.5 miles of the creek. This pasture will be rested for 5 years. In the remainder of the allotment the grazing system was found to be adequate to meet multiple-use objectives for wildlife habitat, rangeland condition, and wild horse habitat. The trough will be replaced at a spring development to return the project to usable condition and one spring will be developed in 1994.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5534	Mahon Creek	I	The AMP will be revised in this allotment in 1994. The AMP will incorporate recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and include a grazing system designed to resolve the resource conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP which include water quality and big game habitat. Because of the need for increased monitoring of the new grazing system, this allotment will be recategorized as an 'I' category allotment.
5535	Miller Canyon	I	An allotment management evaluation was completed in 1993. The results of the evaluation indicate stocking rate is balanced with carrying capacity. It also found the objectives of the AMP should be modified to reflect conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The plan will be revised in 1994 to incorporate objectives including big game habitat, Special Status species, and range condition. Juniper control is recommended to reduce competition with grasses.
5536	Alder Creek	I	An AMP will be developed in 1994. Resource concerns and conflicts include water quality; condition of big game, riparian, and aquatic habitats; Special Status species (redband trout and bald eagles); and, range condition.
5538	Riverside	M	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource conflicts and concerns include Special Status species, recreation use, deer winter range, and range condition. Grazing preference and exchange of use allowed have been reduced because of changes in ownership of private land.
5564	Wheeler Basin	M	An allotment management evaluation was conducted in 1993. Results indicated the stocking level was balanced with forage production and the grazing system in place will meet multiple-use objectives. The AMP will be revised in 1994 to formalize the existing grazing system.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
5565	Upton Mountain	I	The BLM's Cooperative Unit at Oregon State University began research to determine whether or not medusahead rye (<i>Taeniatherum caput-medusae</i>) is able to establish itself in loamy soil. Medusahead is a noxious weed which has invaded many acres in Harney County. A trough will be replaced at a spring development in 1994 to return it to a functioning condition.
5566	Texaco Basin	I	An allotment management evaluation will be conducted in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP include water quality; condition of riparian, wetland, and aquatic habitats; recreation use; wild horses; and, Special Status species. The AMP will be revised in 1994 to incorporate the recommendations of the evaluation and a grazing system. Researchers at BLM's Cooperative Unit at Oregon State University began a study of competition between squirreltail (<i>Sitanion hystrix</i>) and medusahead (<i>Taeniatherum caput-medusae</i>). A trough will be replaced at a spring development in 1994 to return it to a functioning condition.
5575	Schoolhouse	M	This allotment, containing 2,288 acres of public land, was established when the Little Muddy Creek Allotment (No. 5505) was divided. Research was begun by BLM's Cooperative Unit at Oregon State University to determine if medusahead rye is able to establish itself in loamy soil.
5576	Lower Pine	M	This allotment, containing 3,177 acres of public land, was established when the Little Muddy Creek Allotment (No. 5505) was divided.
5577	Cooper Field FFR	C	This allotment, containing 440 acres of public land, was established from the Hamilton Allotment (No. 5214). It will be managed as a custodial allotment.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
7001	East Warm Springs	I	<p>Because of several management changes, the AMP was revised in 1993. Upon approval of the Three Rivers RMP in September 1992, Foster Flat was designated as a Research Natural Area (RNA) in the Area of Critical Environmental Concern ACEC program. Additional forage became available in the Saddle Butte Fire Rehabilitation Seeding, and an early use pasture was established on Jack Creek to enhance sage grouse habitat. The allotment management evaluation recommended management changes in several of the pastures. Objectives of management are to increase forage production for livestock, provide forage for antelope and for deer on deer winter range, provide forage for and maintain a viable wild horse herd, improve habitat for sage grouse, improve and maintain trend of key species, protect Malheur wirelettuce, and protect the Foster Flat RNA.</p> <p>Key forage species and target utilization levels were developed for each pasture. The grazing system calls for a variety of grazing treatments depending on the specific objectives in the pastures. After the first year of the system, the riparian vegetation in the Jack Creek spring use pasture shows improvement. A well was drilled in the Saddle Butte Seeding. Seven waterholes were cleaned out and the dam was rebuilt at one reservoir in 1993 to provide water for wild horses, livestock and wildlife.</p>
7002	West Warm Springs	I	<p>A cattleguard was installed on a well-traveled public road to enhance public access as well as provide better control of livestock.</p>
7003	East Wagontire	I	<p>A decision was issued in 1993 to reduce active preference as a result of a 1988 land exchange with the State. The allotment boundary was changed to reflect portions of the East Wagontire Allotment, lying east of Highway 395, being removed to form the Capehart Lake Allotment (No. 7062). The allotment now contains 81,139 public acres. An AMP will be developed in 1994, incorporating recommendations by the allotment management evaluation. A grazing system will resolve resource conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP including condition of big game play habitats, Special Status species, and range condition.</p>

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
7004	West Wagontire	I	The pump was replaced at the Sand Hollow Well. The boundary was changed and now contains 41,759 public acres including the southern portion of the old allotment and 700 acres previously administered by the Lakeview District, now fenced into the allotment. An AMP will be developed in 1994, incorporating recommendations of the allotment management evaluation. A grazing system will resolve conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP including condition of big game and playa habitats, Special Status species, and range condition.
7005	Glass Butte	I	This allotment has been combined with the north portion of the West Wagontire Allotment (No. 7004) to form a new allotment called the Round Top Butte Allotment (No. 7063). The change will facilitate ecological improvement by combining several pastures into a deferred rotation grazing system.
7008	Sheep Lake-Shields	I	An AMP was developed in 1993 to replace the one developed in 1976. The plan reflects recommendations in a 1990 allotment management evaluation and conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. Multiple-use resource objectives include improving fair condition range and maintaining good condition range, amount of browse on deer winter range, and species diversity in plant communities. A grazing system using graze and defer treatments will meet these objectives. Key forage species and target utilization levels have been developed. The permittee also agrees to take voluntary nonuse on a portion of the permit to balance the stocking rate with forage production.
7009	Dry Lake	I	An AMP will be developed in 1994, and will address recommendations made in the allotment management evaluation. It will include a grazing system designed to resolve resource conflicts or concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP including condition of big game, riparian, wetland, aquatic, and playa habitats; Special Status species including redband trout and bald eagle; water quality; erosion; and, range condition.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
7010	Claw Creek	I	A fence, 1.1 miles long, was constructed to protect riparian habitat, completing actions identified in the interim Coordinated RMP. All stretches of creeks have been fenced into riparian pastures which will allow following of the grazing system developed to improve riparian condition. Riparian resources include 2.3 miles of Claw Creek, 2.45 miles of Silver Creek, 1.2 miles of Dairy Creek, and 1 mile of Rough Creek. Pending receipt of State permits, a reservoir will be constructed in 1994.
7015	Second Flat	I	An AMP was developed in 1993. The allotment management evaluation prepared in 1989 recommended a reduction in stocking rate; however, in 1990 the Pine Springs Basin Fire burned approximately 50 percent of the allotment. The allotment was rested completely in 1991 and 1992 and, as a result, resource conditions have undergone major changes. The Three Rivers RMP identified several resource concerns and conflicts and these were addressed in the AMP. A fence was constructed to allow the grazing system to be carried out. Objectives of the plan include increasing forage for livestock and wildlife, improving the quantity and availability of upland forbs, increasing ground cover in the burned area, improving range condition, maintaining the diversity of species in plant communities, and maintaining the amount of browse in deer and elk winter range. The grazing system is a combination of early graze, graze, and rest treatments. Key forage species and target utilization levels are established for each pasture.
7018	Silver Lake	I	Approximately 1,100 acres of low-quality sagebrush were burned and reseeded in this allotment in 1993.
7019	Palomino Butte	I	A pipeline originally installed to provide reliable water to wild horses during drought was extended onto a playa lakebed to develop a wetland for waterfowl. The playa will be fenced to protect the wetland from grazing by cattle and horses.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
7023	West Sagehen	I	An AMP will be developed in 1994 to reflect resource changes that have taken place since the Pine Springs Basin Fire and incorporate recommendations of the allotment management evaluation. The plan will include a grazing system designed to resolve conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP including condition of big game habitat, Special Status species, and range condition.
7024	East Sagehen	I	An AMP will be developed in 1994 to reflect resource changes that have taken place since the Pine Springs Basin Fire and incorporate recommendations of the allotment management evaluation. The plan will include a grazing system designed to resolve conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP including erosion, condition of big game habitat, Special Status species, and range condition. Nine miles of fence were constructed in 1993. Part of the fence was to protect pine seedlings planted after the 1990 Pine Springs Basin Fire, the rest of the fence will facilitate development of a grazing system. A cattleguard was installed on a public road used for hauling timber and general access.
7025	Gouldin	I	An AMP will be developed in 1994 to incorporate recommendations of the allotment management evaluation. The plan will include a grazing system designed to resolve resource conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP including erosion, recreation, condition of big game habitat, Special Status species, deer winter range, and range condition.
7026	Horton Mill	I	One and one-half miles of fence were constructed in 1993 to protect pine seedlings planted after the 1990 Pine Springs Basin Fire. This enabled the grazing permittees to use the remainder of the allotment while still protecting the young trees.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
7030	Skull Creek	I	An allotment management evaluation will be prepared in 1994. It will analyze if present management is meeting resource objectives. Resource conflicts and concerns in this allotment include water quality, erosion, riparian and aquatic habitat condition, Special Status species, big game habitat, and range condition. In order to enhance public access, two cattleguards were cleaned out in 1993. To protect the small portion of the allotment affected by the Pine Springs Basin Fire, 0.9-mile of fence was constructed. The trough will be replaced at a spring to return the project to usable condition to provide clean, reliable water for livestock and wildlife and approximately 0.5-mile of fence will be reconstructed in 1994 to maintain the riparian pasture.
7031	Hay Creek	I	A grazing system will be implemented to improve the riparian area along Hay Creek. In 1993, 0.6 mile of management fence was constructed.
7058	Narrows	I	The AMP was rewritten in 1993. The grazing system meets the needs of the permittee's livestock operation, as well as meeting the resource objective of improving range condition. The system contains a combination of graze and defer treatments which allow for rest during the growing season on alternate years. Key forage species and target utilization levels are set for each pasture.
7062	Capehart Lake	I	This is a new allotment, containing 37,093 acres of public land, formed from that portion of the East Wagontire Allotment which lies on the east side of Highway 395. Historically, this had been a separate use area. An AMP is being developed to promote ecological improvement.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
7063	Round Top Butte	I	This is a new allotment, containing 33,272 acres of public land, formed by combining the north part of the West Wagontire Allotment and the Glass Butte Allotment. The boundary change will facilitate ecological improvement by combining several pastures into a deferred rotation grazing system under one permittee. An AMP will be developed to identify multiple-use objectives and a grazing system designed to resolve conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP including condition of big game and playa habitats, Special Status species, mining, and range condition. The plan will incorporate recommendations from allotment management evaluations.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REGISTER

If you would like to be involved in the planning process for any particular project or would simply like to receive a copy of an Environmental Assessment (EA) for review, note the EA register number and contact the District Environmental Coordinator Gordon Bentley, or the project's primary contact listed below. This should be done as early as possible to allow for full consideration of your input. Map 1, Andrews Resource Area, and Map 2, Three Rivers Resource Area, depict the location of each of these projects.

Note: The following are projects or actions for which EAs were scheduled in previous years but were not completed. The EAs for these projects are expected to be completed in fiscal year 1994.

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date
EA OR-025*-91-017	Petersen Exchange	The proposed action is to exchange approximately 2,500 acres of public land for approximately 1,300 acres of private land.	T. 21 S., R. 26 E., Upper Silver Creek Valley and Dry Mountain area north of Riley, Oregon.	ACECs; cultural resources; Special Status species; water quality; wetlands/riparian zones; Silver Creek RNA/ACEC and proposed extension; redband trout, Category 2 Special Status species; Silver Creek; Wickiup Creek, Claw Creek.	EA: Summer/ Fall 1994 Decision Record: Fall 1994
Primary Contact: Skip Renschler		The purpose of this action is to provide for acquisition of important riparian and wildlife values and consolidate private and public lands into manageable units. Acquisition of part (640 acres) of the private land would allow a segment of Silver Creek to be included in the existing Research Natural Area/Area of Environmental Concern (RNA/ACEC) as identified in the Three Rivers Resource Management Plan (RMP). Other important riparian and wildlife values would also be acquired. The exchange would also provide more efficient management of two grazing allotments.			
EA OR-025-93-010	Andy Root Land Exchange	The proposed action is to exchange 160 acres of public land for 160 acres of private land.	T. 22 S., R. 32½ E., Mortimer Canyon and Harney Basin east of Burns, Oregon.	None.	EA: Summer 1994 Decision Record: Fall/Winter 1994
Primary Contact: Skip Renschler		The purpose of the proposed action is to dispose of isolated, difficult to manage parcels of public land, acquire important wildlife habitat including deer winter range, and to consolidate public and private land blocks. This would eliminate BLM jurisdiction from a grazing allotment comprised mostly of private land.			

* 025 = Three Rivers Resource Area 026 = Andrews Resource Area

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date
EA OR-026-93-015	South Steens Allotment Management Plan (AMP)	<p>The proposed action is to develop an AMP for the South Steens Allotment.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to develop a specific grazing strategy to meet specific objectives for natural resources occurring in the area. Rotation of grazing would provide periods of deferment, areas to be rested during the entire growing season, winter use, variable timing of grazing, and controlled levels of use.</p>	South Steens Allotment	Riparian/wetlands water quality; South Steens Wild Horse Herd Management Area (HMA); Donner und Blitzen National Wild and Scenic River; Special Status plants; Rincon (2-82) Wilderness Study Area (WSA); Alvord Peak (2-83) WSA; Basque Hills (2-84) WSA; South Fork Donner und Blitzen River (2-85G) WSA; Home Creek (2-85H) WSA; High Steens (2-85F) WSA; Little Blitzen Gorge (2-86F) WSA.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Fall 1994
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					
EA OR-025-93-016	Smyth Creek Juniper Control	<p>The proposed action is to cut all juniper trees less than 24 inches in diameter, measured 1-foot above ground, in six units whose combined area is approximately 300 acres.</p> <p>The purpose of the action is to reduce juniper competition with grasses, forbs, and shrubs, especially riparian species. Trees will be cut and left in place to improve riparian habitat and increase streamflow for redband trout and to prevent livestock entry into riparian areas.</p>	T. 30 S., R. 34 E., Sec. 15, 16 and 22.	None.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Summer 1994
Primary Contact: Fred Taylor					
EA OR-025-93-017	Buzzard Creek Riparian Fence	<p>The proposed action is to construct approximately 2 miles of fence on the east side of Buzzard Creek, to connect with the Harney Lake Fire Fence to enclose the area. This fence would be constructed of 5.5-foot steel posts and 3 strands of wire, of which the top two would be barbed and the bottom wire would be smooth.</p> <p>The purpose of this proposed action is to facilitate rest of 2 miles of Buzzard Creek to improve meadow and riparian vegetation. This proposed action was identified in the Three Rivers RMP dated September 1992. Riparian habitat is in undesirable condition and water quality does not meet State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) water standards.</p>	T. 28 S., R. 29 E., Sec. 20, 21, 27 and 28. On Meadow Creek Quadangle.	Wild horses (Warm Springs HMA); wetland/riparian.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Fred Taylor					

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date
EA OR-026-93-018	Upper Dry Creek Pasture Fence	The proposed action is to extend the pasture fence between Cold Springs Pasture and Upper Dry Creek 0.75-mile to the edge of Squaw Creek. This would be a 4-strand barbed wire fence with the bottom strand smooth. The purpose of this action is to complete the pasture division fence between Cold Springs Pasture and Upper Dry Creek Pasture to allow implementation of a rotational grazing system.	T. 33 S., R. 32 1/2 E., Sec. 17 and 20. This area is approximately 2.5 miles north of the mouth of Blitzen Gorge and approximately 3 miles northeast of the Riddle Brothers Ranch.	None.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					
EA OR-026-93-020	Cold Spring Protection Fence Trough	The proposed action is to construct a rail fence around the spring head approximately 50-foot square, and pipe water into a trough and an overflow pond. These facilities would replace deteriorated existing structures. The purpose of this action is to protect the riparian vegetation at the spring source and to provide a water source away from the spring. It would also allow riparian conditions to improve.	T. 33 S., R. 32 1/2 E., Sec. 22, SE 1/4 NE 1/4. This area is located above the north rim of Little Blitzen Gorge.	Wetlands/Riparian Zones; Little Blitzen Gorge (2-86F) WSA.	EA: Summer 1994 Decision Record: Summer 1994
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					
EA OR-026-93-021	Fish Creek/ Big Indian Spring Protection Fences	The proposed action is to accomplish maintenance of five spring-fed waterholes and fence around the springs and waterholes to exclude cattle during the summer of 1994. Each proposed fence will be approximately 50-foot square, rail or 4-strand barbed wire fence. A small collection box may be installed within each enclosure and water piped out to waterholes. The purpose of this action is to prevent direct access into water sources by livestock, protect the riparian habitat, and ensure continued flow of water from each spring.	T. 33 S., R. 32 1/2 E., Sec. 27, NW 1/4 NE 1/4; T. 33 S., R. 32 1/2 E., Sec. 22, NE 1/4 SW 1/4; T. 33 S., R. 32 1/2 E., Sec. 21, SW 1/4 NE 1/4; T. 33 S., R. 32 1/2 E., Sec. 9, SE 1/4 SE 1/4; T. 33 S., R. 32 1/2 E., Sec. 9, SW 1/4 SW 1/4. This area is located in the central portion of Steens Mountain above the north rim of Little Blitzen Gorge.	Wetlands/riparian zones; Little Blitzen Gorge (2-86F) WSA and Blitzen River (2-86E) WSA, Donner and Blitzen National Wild and Scenic River.	EA: Summer 1994 Decision Record: Summer 1994
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					
EA OR-026-93-022	Mann Lake Pipeline	The proposed action is to connect 2 miles of pipeline to a previously developed spring (Strade Spring) and place two troughs along the route. A protection fence would be constructed around the spring. The purpose of this action is to provide a water source for livestock away from Mann Lake. This action would also improve the distribution of livestock in the Mann Lake seeding.	T. 31 and 32 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 31, 6 and 7. This area is approximately 1.5 miles north of Mann Lake on the northwest edge of South Mann Lake seeding.	Stonehouse (2-23L) WSA.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date
EA OR-025-93-025	Ross Springs Wetland Fence	<p>The proposed action is to construct approximately 1-mile of 4-strand barbed wire fence along the west and south sides of Ross Springs. The proposed action will also provide water for livestock outside of the enclosure by maintenance of an existing waterhole.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to improve riparian values and water quality by removing livestock access of the Ross Spring/Alkali Flat wetland area. This action was identified in the Three River RMP dated September 1992.</p>	T. 26 S., R. 28 E., Sec. 34, SE¼NE¼.	Wetland/riparian.	EA: Summer 1994 Decision Record: Fall 1994
Primary Contact: Fred Taylor					
EA OR-025-93-028	Silvies River Fishing Access Trail	<p>The proposed action is to build approximately 0.5-mile of low-standard hiking trail from the west rim of the Silvies River down to the canyon bottom.</p> <p>The purpose of the trail would be to provide physical access to a 3-mile stretch of public river with limited legal access. The trail would enhance fishing opportunities for the public, especially in local communities. Signs giving directions and information are also planned.</p>	T. 21 S., R. 29 E., Sec. 25.	None.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Dave Vickstrom					
EA OR-026-93-029	Shipley Spring Enclosure	<p>The proposed action is to enlarge the present enclosure of 0.25-acre to 3 acres and construct two rock passes for bighorn sheep and mule deer access.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to provide a safe water source for big game. Wild animals can be more easily preyed upon within a small enclosure. Habitat within the larger enclosure would also be improved for chukar and nongame species.</p>	T. 37 S., R. 32½ E., Sec. 17 and 20. Shipley Spring.	California bighorn sheep, Category 2 species and Rincon (2-82) WSA.	EA: Fall 1994 Decision Record: Fall 1994
Primary Contact: Guy Sheeter					
EA OR-026-93-035	WSA Reclamation Projects (vehicle routes closed and restoration actions taken)	<p>The proposed action is to close three short, dead-end vehicle routes in the Pueblo Mountains (2-81) WSA, totalling 3 miles, by placing physical barricades, ripping compacted soils, and installing temporary water bars along steep portions of the route.</p>	T. 39 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 28, 29 and 32; T. 40 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 33.	Pueblo Mountains (2-81) WSA, Pueblo Foothills RNA.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Summer 1994
Primary Contact: Scott Moore					

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date
		The purpose of this action is to improve wilderness values such as naturalness, stop accelerated erosion along steep terrain occurring on the vehicle routes, help deter illegal off-highway vehicle use, and help eliminate surface disturbing damage within a RNA. The ripping action would only take place on flat terrain and along the vehicle route(s). The waterbars would be temporary (made of wood).			
EA OR-026-93-030	Pueblo-Lone Mountain AMP	The proposed action is to develop an AMP for the Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment.	Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment.	Special Status species, water quality, wetlands/ riparian zones, Pueblo Mountain (2-81) WSA, Rincon (2-82) WSA, and Hawk Mountain (1-146A) WSA, cultural resources.	EA: Fall 1994 Decision Record: Fall 1995
Primary Contact: Willie Street		The purpose of this action is to develop an allotment management strategy which would meet allotment-specific objectives for vegetative resources within the Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment. This would include a deferred grazing system which would allow for periodic rest from grazing and result in improved conditions of vegetation.			
EA- OR-026-93-036	WSA Reclamation Projects (old mining operations reclaimed)	The proposed action is to reclaim two old mining operations (exploration pits and shafts) in the Pueblo Mountains (2-81) and Alvord Peak (2-83) WSAs.	T. 39 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 31; T. 37 S., R. 33 E., Sec. 7.	Pueblo Mountains (2-81) WSA and Alvord Peak (2-83) WSA.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Summer 1994
Primary Contact: Scott Moore		The purpose of this project is to improve wilderness values, such as naturalness, and restore disturbed areas that no longer serve the original purpose and will not heal naturally, and to eliminate public safety hazards. Using heavy equipment, waste piles would be put back into pits and shafts and the areas contoured to blend with the surrounding topography.			
EA OR-025-93-59	Gus's Well Forest Management Plan	The proposed action is to harvest 1.2 MMBF of timber from approximately 600 acres of land in the Emigrant Butte Forest Management Area.	T. 21 S., R. 27 E., Sec. 8, 9, and 10.	Water quality.	EA: Summer 1994 Decision Record: Fall 1994
Primary Contact: Jon Reponen		The purpose of this action is to harvest timber, provide commercial wood products, and establish a healthy forest ecosystem. An improving ecosystem will optimize future productivity of the forest site and ensure a sustained yield of forest products and habitat for wildlife.			

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date
Note: The following are new projects for which the EAs are scheduled to be completed in fiscal year 1994.					
EA OR-025-94-007	Warm Springs and Palomino Butte Wild Horse Gathering	The proposed action is to gather horses from the Warm Springs and Palomino Buttes Wild HMAs. Approximately 35 horses will be gathered from the Palomino Buttes HMA and approximately 123 horses will be gathered from the Warm Springs HMA.	Warm Springs and Palomino Buttes Wild Horse HMAs.	Water quality/riparian zones; Special Status and Category 2 candidate species; playa habitat; and Foster Flat RNA/ACEC.	EA: Winter 1994 Decision Record: Winter 1994
Primary Contact: Dean Bolstad		The purpose of the proposed action is to achieve appropriate management levels to maintain and restore a thriving ecological balance and multiple-use relationships.			
EA OR-025-94-009	Miller Canyon and Mountain Allotments Juniper Control	The proposed action is to cut all juniper trees less than 24-inches in diameter, measured 1-foot above ground, in 30 units with a combined area of approximately 1,900 acres.	Scattered sites in the Miller Canyon (No. 5535) and Mountain (No. 5532) Allotments in the Stinkingwater Mountains.	None.	EA: Fall 1994 Decision Record: Winter 1995
Primary Contact: Fred Taylor		The purpose of the action is to reduce juniper competition with grasses, forbs, shrubs, and in some areas aspen trees. Trees will be cut and left in place to provide beneficial micro-site characteristics for seedling establishment.			
EA OR-025-94-012	Sand Hollow Storage Tank and Pipeline	The proposed action is to replace old storage tanks at the Sand Hollow Well with a 10,000-gallon tank. One mile of pipeline would then be installed from the storage tank to a 30-foot bottomless trough north of the well.	T. 25 S., R. 23 E., Sec. 31, NW¼NW¼.	None.	EA: Summer 1994 Decision Record: Summer 1994
Primary Contact: Bill Andersen		The purpose of the proposed action is to improve the ecological condition in the Chandler Butte Pasture of the West Wagonire Allotment through improved livestock distribution. The project would also serve as the foundation for establishing a graze/defer rotation grazing system in the allotment which would result in improved ecological conditions.			
EA OR-025-94-013	Juniper Ridge Fence	The proposed action is to construct 4 miles of 3-strand fence along the top of Juniper Ridge in the Juniper Ridge Allotment.	T. 24 S., R. 26 E., Sec. 4, 10, 11, 12 and 13.	None.	EA: Summer 1994 Decision Record: Summer 1994
Primary Contact: Bill Andersen					

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date
		The purpose of the proposed action is to improve ecological condition on the north end of the Juniper Ridge Allotment by preventing livestock from using the area during the active plant growth period every year. Use would occur in the late fall after plants are dormant. This would improve the vigor of most plant species.			
EA OR-025-94-014	Riddle Creek Prescribed Burn	The proposed action is to burn three parcels totalling approximately 200 acres along the upper reaches of Riddle Creek in the Riddle/Coyote, Hamilton Individual, and Riddle Mountain Allotments.	T. 30 S., R. 34 E., Sec. 13 and 24; T. 30 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 30.	None.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Bill Andersen					
		The purpose of the proposed action is to maintain a healthy balance between grass, shrub and tree components of the plant community by reducing competition from junipers. The grass and shrub component is essential in maintaining soil stability and moisture infiltration.			
EA OR-025-94-015	WSR Fence	The proposed action is to construct 1.5 miles of fence along the south shore of Warm Springs Reservoir in the Riverside Allotment.	T. 23 S., R. 36 E., Sec. 12 and 13.	None.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Bill Andersen					
		The purpose of the proposed action is to prevent livestock from getting bogged down in the mud along the reservoir as the water level recedes during the summer.			
EA OR-025-94-017	Mahon Creek Division Fence	The proposed action is to construct approximately 1-mile of fence in the Crow Camp Pasture of the Mahon Creek Allotment to create a riparian pasture surrounding Mahon Creek.	T. 23 S., R. 34 E., Sec. 15 and 22.	Cultural resources.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Lesley Richman					
		The purpose of this action is to improve riparian condition in the Mahon Creek drainage and facilitate the implementation of a grazing system that will accomplish management objectives. The riparian habitat is in undesirable condition and is not improving under the current grazing system.			

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date
EA OR-025-94-018	Malheur River Fence	The proposed action is to construct approximately 1.5 miles of fence along the South Fork of the Malheur River in the Stockade Fenced Federal Range (FFR) Allotment. The fence will tie into an existing fence in the Road Flat Field of the Venator Allotment.	T. 25 S., R. 36 E., Sec. 33 and 34; T. 26 S., R. 36 E., Sec. 4.	Riparian, wetlands, cultural resources.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Lesley Richman		The purpose of this action is to combine 1.35 miles of river in the Stockade FFR Allotment with 1.25 miles of river in the Road Flat Field of the Venator Allotment into one pasture to most effectively manage both areas. Objectives of management are to increase the woody component of the riparian vegetation. These stretches of the South Fork of the Malheur River have been proposed for immediate grazing system implementation in the Three Rivers RMP. This action will allow implementation of an April only grazing treatment along these portions of the river.			
EA OR-025-94-019	Lower Field Electric Fence	The proposed action would allow temporary installation of an electric fence to divide the lower pasture of the East Davies Allotment into north and south halves.	T. 27 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 22 and 23.	None.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Lesley Richman		The purpose of this action is to gain more effective control over livestock grazing in order to improve distribution.			
EA OR-025-94-020	Narrows North Pasture Improvement	The proposed action is to construct approximately 1.25 miles of fence and install approximately 1-mile of pipeline to a trough in the north pasture of the Narrows Allotment.	T. 27 S., R. 31 E., Sec. 7 and 18.	South Narrows ACEC.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Lesley Richman		The purpose of these facilities is to achieve more uniform utilization in this pasture and more effective management of the diverse vegetative types occurring there. Areas with a high percentage of cheatgrass will be more easily managed without over-utilizing areas of native bunchgrasses. Hillsides will be properly grazed.			

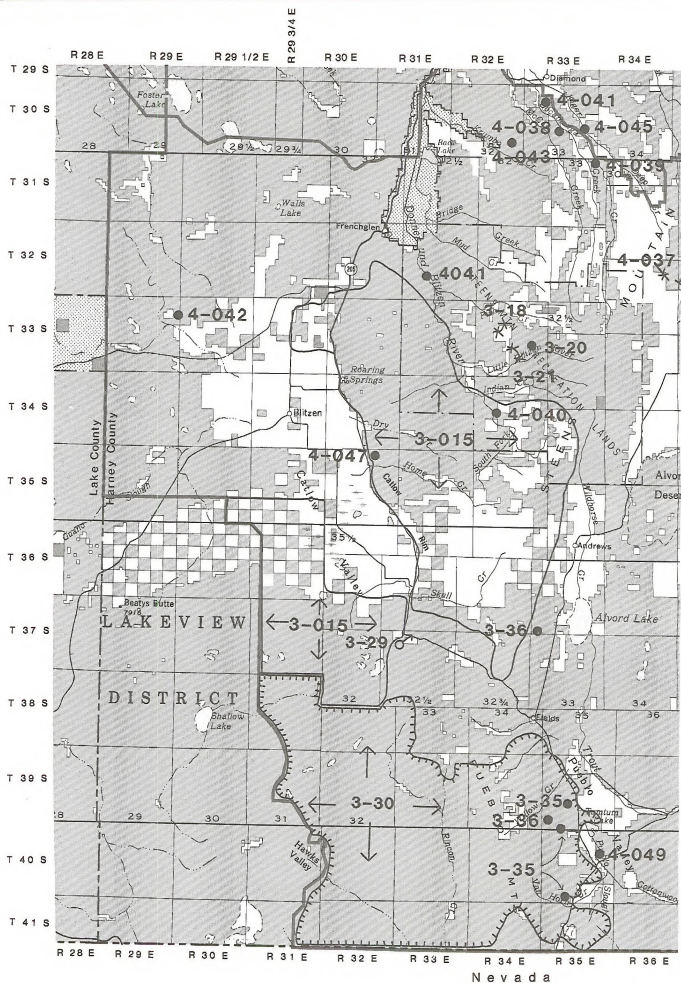
EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date
EA OR-025-94-021	Tudor Canyon Cooperative Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	<p>The proposed action is to harvest approximately 25,000 board feet of ponderosa pine from an aspen stand on public lands. Also to permit use of existing roads, reconstruction of an old skid trail, and landing and turn around area for harvest of timber on adjacent private land.</p> <p>The purpose of the proposed action is to improve the reproduction and vigor of aspen/meadow habitat located on public land while facilitating the removal of timber from adjacent private land.</p>	T. 21 S., R. 32 E., Sec. 34.	Wetland/riparian areas, water quality, air quality.	EA: Winter 1993 Decision Record: Winter 1994
Primary Contact: Fred Taylor, Jon Reponen, Skip Renchler					
EA OR-026-94-037	North Foothills Fence	<p>The proposed action is to extend an existing fence 1.5 miles within the North Foothills Pasture of the Mann Lake Allotment. The fence would be 4-strand, the top three strands barbed and the bottom strand smooth wire. The livestock permittee would provide the materials and construct the fence to BLM standards.</p> <p>The purpose of the proposed action is to prevent cattle from trailing to upper elevations before key plant species have made adequate growth and to improve distribution of livestock within the pasture.</p>	T. 32 S., R. 34 E., Sec. 2, 11, and 12.	None.	EA: Winter 1994 Decision Record: Winter 1994
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					
EA OR-026-94-038	Chimney Prescribed Burn	<p>The proposed action is to burn approximately 1,200 acres within the Chimney Pasture of the Chimney Allotment. To allow forage plants to recover, the area would not be grazed for two growing seasons following the burn.</p> <p>The purpose of the proposed action is to remove encroaching juniper trees, increase diversity of species in the plant community, increase forage production for livestock and wildlife, reduce runoff and erosion, and improve infiltration of water into the soil.</p>	T. 30 S., R. 33 E., Sec. 27, 34, and 35; T. 31 S., R. 33 E., Sec. 4, 9, 10, and 15.	None.	EA: Winter 1994 Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan					

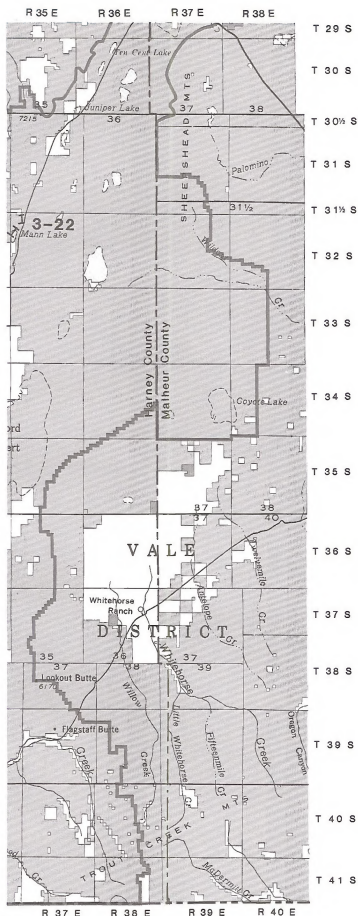
EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date
EA OR-026-94-039	Tackman Prescribed Burn	The proposed action is to burn 500 acres within the Wildcat and Tackman Pastures of the East Ridge Allotment. To allow forage plants to recover, the area would not be grazed for two growing seasons following the burn.	T. 31 S., R. 33 E., Sec. 3, 10, 11, 14, and 15.	None.	EA: Winter 1994 Decision Record: Winter 1994
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan		The purpose of the proposed action is to remove encroaching juniper trees, increase diversity of species in the plant community, increase forage production for livestock and wildlife, reduce runoff and erosion, and improve infiltration of water into the soil.			
EA OR-026-94-040	Mud Creek Prescribed Burn	The proposed action is to burn 600 acres within the South Steens pasture of the South Steens Allotment. To allow forage plants to recover, the area would not be grazed for two growing seasons following the burn.	T. 34 S., R. 32½ E., Sec. 10, 11, 12, 14, and 15.	South Fork Donner und Blitzen River (2-85G) WSA; High Steens (2-85F) WSA.	EA: Winter 1994 Decision Record: Summer 1994
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan		The purpose of the proposed action is to remove encroaching juniper trees, increase diversity of species in the plant community, increase forage production for livestock and wildlife, reduce runoff and erosion, and improve infiltration of water into the soil.			
EA OR-026-94-041	North Seeding Pipeline	The proposed action is to pipe water from an existing well on private land to a trough 0.25-mile away on a crested wheatgrass seeding in the Chimney Allotment. The livestock permittee would provide the materials and install facilities to BLM standards.	T. 30 S., R. 33 E., Sec. 8, NE¼.	None.	EA: Winter 1994 Decision Record: Winter 1994
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan		The purpose of the proposed action is to improve distribution of livestock, increase utilization in upland areas, and relieve grazing pressure along Cucamonga Creek.			
EA OR-026-94-042	Duhaime Pipeline Extension Burial	The proposed action is to bury 3.5 miles of plastic pipe that was laid on top of the ground in 1990, as an emergency drought relief project. Two 16-foot bottomless troughs would also be added.	T. 31 S., R. 29 E., Sec. 33; T. 32 S., R. 29 E., Sec. 3, 4, 15, 22, and 27.	None.	EA: Winter 1994 Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Dave Ward		The purpose of this action is to provide water for livestock and wildlife and improve grazing management in the North Catlow Allotment by improving distribution of livestock.			

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date
EA OR-026-94-043	Dry Krumbo Reservoir	The proposed action is to build a stockwater reservoir approximately 3-acre feet in capacity.	T. 31 S., R. 32 1/4 E., Sec. 16.	None.	EA: Winter 1994 Decision Record: Winter 1994
Primary Contact: Dave Ward		The purpose of this action is to improve distribution of livestock in the Krumbo Ridge Pasture.			
EA OR-026-94-044	Little Blitzen Streambank Stabilization	The proposed action is to stabilize 200 yards of streambank by anchoring cut junipers along banks of the Little Blitzen River just above the Riddle Brothers Ranch houses.	T. 33 S., R. 32 1/4 E., Sec. 31.	Redband trout a Category 2 species; Donner und Blitzen National Wild and Scenic River.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: May 1994
Primary Contact: Guy Sheeter		The purpose of this action is to stabilize eroding banks, protect meadows, and improve water quality.			
EA OR-026-94-045	Andrews Ruffed Grouse Release	The proposed action is for ODFW to release ruffed grouse in Fish, McCoy, and Kiger Creek drainages on Steens Mountain.	Fish, McCoy, and Kiger Creeks on Steens Mountain.	Donner und Blitzen National Wild and Scenic River; Blitzen River (2-86E) WSA.	EA: Fall 1994 Decision Record: Fall 1994
Primary Contact: Guy Sheeter		The purpose of this action is to establish a ruffed grouse population along the above mentioned creeks.			
EA OR-026-94-046	Steens Mountain Bighorn Sheep Releases	The proposed action is for ODFW to release California bighorn sheep in the Frenchglen Rim area, the lower Blitzen River Canyon, near Big Indian, the Stonehouse Canyon area of Steens Mountain and the Red Mountain and Cottonwood Creek areas near the Nevada state line.	Steens Mountain and Red Mountain areas.	Blitzen River (2-86E) WSA; High Steens (2-85F) WSA; Red Mountain (2-78) WSA.	EA: Fall 1994 Decision Record: Fall 1994
Primary Contact: Guy Sheeter		The purpose of this action is to reestablish bighorn sheep in historic ranges which still provide viable habitat. This action is in conformance with the ODFW's Oregon Bighorn Sheep Management Plan.			
EA OR-026-94-047	Catlow Rim Bighorn Burns	The proposed action is to burn up to a total of 200 acres along 12 miles of Catlow Rim along the west edge of Steens Mountain.	Catlow Rim from Dry Creek to Echert Grade on Steens Mountain.	Home Creek (2-85H) WSA.	EA: Fall 1994 Decision Record: October 1994
Primary Contact: Guy Sheeter		The purpose of this action is to reduce the density of western juniper and Wyoming big sagebrush to allow grasses used by bighorn sheep to increase.			

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date
EA OR-026-94-048	West Steens Deer Winter Range Browse Seedings	The proposed action is to seed 200 acres of cheatgrass/mustard/ Sandberg's bluegrass plant communities with browse species.	T. 31 S., R. 32½ E., near Frenchglen.	None.	EA: Fall 1994 Decision Record: October 1994
Primary Contact: Guy Sheeter		The purpose of this action is to increase the density of forage on deer winter range and to increase the diversity and structure of plant communities.			
EA OR-026-94-049	Pueblo Slough Wetlands Dike Construction	The proposed action is to construct a 4-foot high dike, 250 yards long, in order to impound water from artesian wells.	T. 41 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 2 and 11.	Cultural resources.	EA: Winter 1995 Decision Record: April 1995
Primary Contact: Guy Sheeter		The purpose of this action is to create a wetland to provide foraging and brood habitat for aquatic birds.			
EA OR-025-94-051	Smith Springs	The proposed action is to develop two springs in the Hill Pasture of the East Silvies Allotment.	T. 20 S., R. 30 E., Sec. 18, SE¼SW¼.	Wetlands/riparian	EA: Summer 1994 Decision Record: Summer 1994
Primary Contact: Jim King		The purpose of the proposed action is to protect a segment of the Silvies River by providing clear, reliable water for livestock away from the river. This would increase utilization of forage on upland areas and provide rest for riparian vegetation.			
EA OR-025-94-052	Smyth Creek Road Realignment	The proposed action is to construct approximately 3/8-mile of road and install one cattleguard in the Yank Springs Pasture of the Kiger Allotment.	T. 30 S., R. 34 E., Sec. 30 and 31.	Public Access; Kiger HMA; Kiger Mustang ACEC.	EA: Spring 1994, Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Jim King		The purpose of the proposed action is to improve public access to public land.			
EA OR-025-94-053	Cherry Springs Re- development	The proposed action is to replace the head box and trough at Cherry Springs in the Squaw Creek Pasture of the Landing Creek Allotment. Approximately 150 feet of new pipeline would replace deteriorated pipe.	T. 21 S., R. 29 E., Sec. 24, NE¼.	Wetlands/riparian.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Summer 1994
Primary Contact: Jim King		The purpose of this action is to protect the riparian areas around the spring from grazing and to provide clean, reliable water for wildlife and livestock and improve livestock distribution over the range.			

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date
EA OR-025-94-054	Yank Springs Riparian Enclosure	The proposed action is to construct approximately 1.5 miles of 4-strand wire fence around Yank Springs in the Ruins Pasture of the Smyth Creek Allotment.	T. 30 S., R. 34 E., Sec. 33, NE¼.	Wetlands/riparian; Kiger HMA; Kiger Mustang ACEC.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Jim King		The purpose of this action is to protect the riparian area from grazing and to provide clean, reliable water for wildlife, wild horses, and livestock and improve distribution of livestock and wild horses over the range.			
EA OR-025-94-059	Alvord AMP	The proposed action is to implement a three-pasture rest rotation grazing system on the Stonehouse Pasture. This will require 4.5 miles of 3-strand barbed wire fence (bottom strand smooth) and approximately 1,000 acres of prescribed burning. 1.5 miles of nonfunctional fence will be removed within the Lower Stonehouse WSA.	T. 30 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 32 (fence). T. 31 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 36 (¾-mile fence). T. 30 S., R. 34 E., Sec. 1, 7, 11, 12, 13, and 18 (burn), approximately 400 acres are within the Lower Stonehouse (2-23M) WSA.	Lower Stonehouse (2-23M) WSA; Riddle Creek and head waters of Deep Creek.	EA: Summer 1994 Decision Record: Summer 1994
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan		The purpose of this action is to improve range condition and plant diversity on sagebrush and juniper dominated sites.			
EA OR-026-94-060	Mickey Hot Springs Fence	The proposed action is to construct 0.75-mile of fence around the geothermal features at the hot springs.	T. 33 S., R. 35 E., Sec. 33.	East Alvord Desert (2-73A) WSA; Alvord-Tule Springs Wild Horse HMA; proposed ACEC.	EA: Spring 1994 Decision Record: Spring 1994
Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan		The purpose of this action is to protect a proposed ACEC from livestock grazing and vehicle traffic and prevent harm to livestock.			





LEGEND

- District Boundary
- Planning Area Boundary
- BLM Lands
- National Wildlife Refuge
- State Lands
- Private Lands
- 3-31** Environmental Assessment Number
- Spring
- Fence
- Wild Horse Gather Area
- Pipeline
- General Location of Other Projects
- Allotment Management Plan Area



BURNS DISTRICT

MAP 1

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Andrews Resource Area

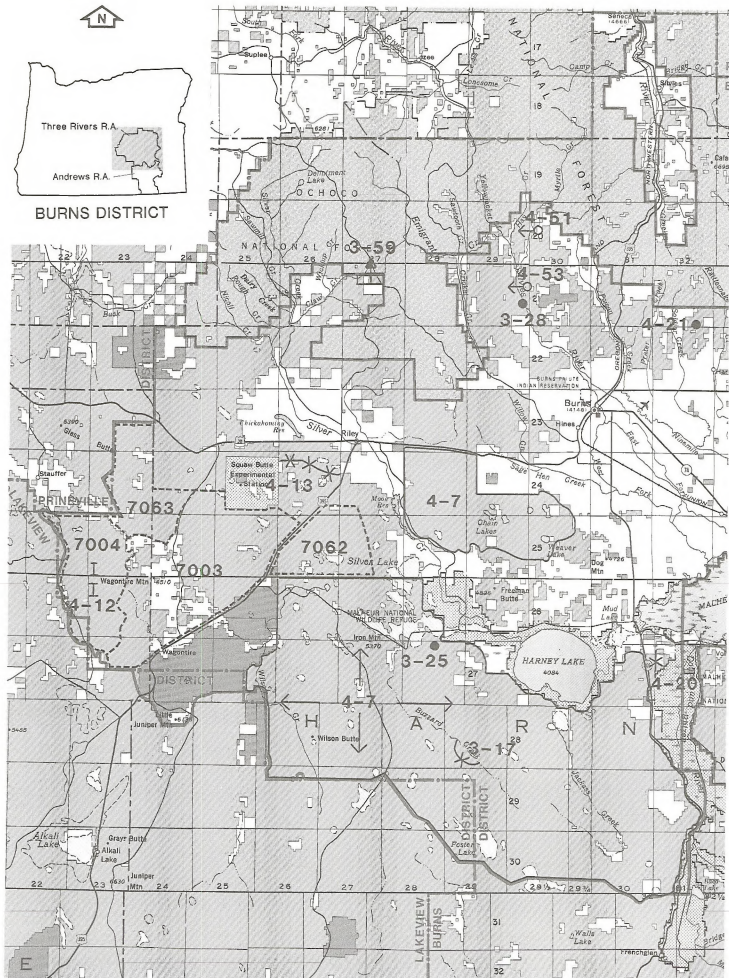
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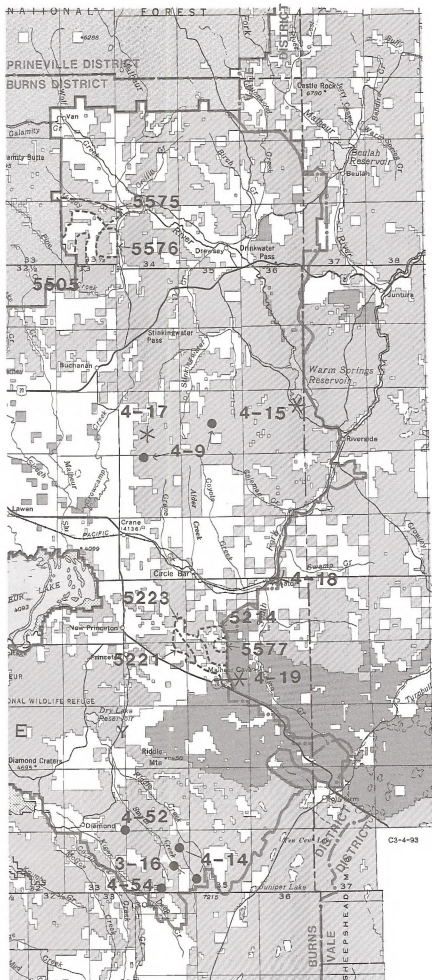


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BURNS DISTRICT





LEGEND

- District Boundary
- Planning Area Boundary
- BLM Lands
- USFS Lands
- Other Federal Lands
- State Lands
- Private Lands
- Allotment Boundary Change
- 5221** Allotment Number
- 3-42** Environmental Assessment Number
- Spring
- Fence
- Pipeline
- Timber Sale
- Wild Horse Gather
- General Location of Other Projects

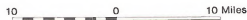
MAP 2

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Bureau of Land Management

BURNS DISTRICT

Three Rivers Resource Area

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